Kendo master in NMI honored with award. PAGE 2
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Hafa Adai!

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Saipan Tribune

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Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig leaves the District Court building in Garapan after his arraignment yesterday afternoon. Atalig pleaded not guilty to the indictment that charged him with one count of wire fraud.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Mayor Atalig pleads not guilty

Found not eligible for court-appointed counsel

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig pleaded not-guilty yesterday to the allegation that he arranged a government-funded trip from Rota to Guam for himself and 12 others on a false claim that he was going to check for surplus equipment at the Naval Base in Guam.

The indictment alleged that Atalig actually went to Guam to participate in a political rally of the GOP last June 23 in Mangilao.

Atalig, through his court-appointed counsel for preliminary matters Bruce Berline, pleaded not guilty to the indictment that charged him with one count of wire fraud.

The punishment for this offense is between zero and 20 years imprisonment and a $250,000 fine.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set Atalig's jury trial for Oct. 16, 2018, at 10am.

There will be a status conference on Tuesday, Sept. 11, at 1:30pm.

Manglona allowed the 57-year-old Atalig to appear via telephone during the status conference.

The judge said that, based on the information that she has received from the U.S. Probation Office,

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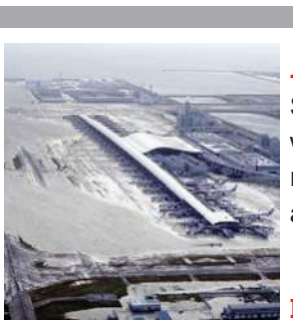
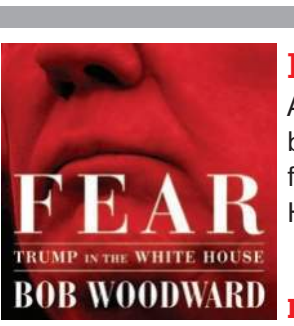
INSIDE

NATION
Despite past reforms, Native American women still face high rates of crime.
PAGE 16



ASIA
Strong typhoon slams western Japan; 8 are reported dead and the airport is flooded.
PAGE 17



LIFE & STYLE
An incendiary tell-all book has set off a firestorm in the White House.
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Local

Kendo master in NMI honored with award

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A Japanese kendo master residing in the CNMI was presented with an annual award by the Japanese government yesterday for promoting kendo in the CNMI for over 10 years.

Izumi Seki, the Japanese Consul General for Guam, presented Itsuro Hosoda yesterday with the Foreign Minister's Commendation award for fiscal year 2018.

Hosoda was one of 205 recipients of this award, all honored for the promotion of Japanese friendship and culture around the world.

"I am very honored to receive this award," Hosoda said yesterday through a translator. "I have received support from many [people on] Saipan…and I am very honored to receive such an award," he said.

Itsuro Hosoda, center, poses with Japanese Consul General to Guam Izumi Seki, second right, and Japanese Consul to Saipan Kinji Shinoda, far right, yesterday at the Japanese Consular Office on Saipan.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Hosoda teaches kendo to about 40 students of all ages at his Kendo Hall, called the Kenbu-Kan, located at Himawari. Hosoda is also the president of Himawari Saipan Inc.

"Even though I am old already, I would like to do my best to promote and continue what I have been doing in teaching kendo in the Kenbu-Kan," he said.

Hosoda said he remains saddened to see high school students go off-island once they graduate, so he is focusing on elementary and middle school students and teaching them the "courtesy of respect" as well as proper etiquette and ways to behave.

"We sincerely hope that many people will join the Himawari Kenbu-Kan to learn the tradition and spirit of Japan through kendo, leading to strengthening the friendship between Japan and the CNMI," said Seki in her speech prior to presenting Hosoda with his award.

"…Kendo is a martial art that preserves the tradition of Japan, the spirit of the Japanese, and a sport to learn human cultivation," she said.

This was echoed by Kinji Shinoda, the Japanese consul to the CNMI. "Kendo is very important to the Japanese people," he said. "Kendo is not only a sport, but is also a kind of discipline as a human being," noting the importance of discipline in the Japanese culture.

"Through kendo, they can really understand what the Japanese people are. This is very important," he said, adding that that he "highly appreciates" Hosoda's efforts. Shinoda added he hopes that kendo piques the interests of the younger generation.

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CUC only has 24 wooden poles left to replace

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. personnel are expected to finish replacing all wooden power poles on Saipan way ahead of the extension deadline given by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The original deadline for the project to be completed was Aug. 31; CUC asked for an extension, which FEMA set on Feb. 4, 2019.

CUC executive director Gary Camacho told *Saipan Tribune* that they asked for the extension since they were not about to meet the August deadline, with 50 more wooden power poles to be replaced back then.

"FEMA granted us the extension. However, we're not going to wait until the Feb. 4 deadline to finish the last 50. Since the extension, we've already done 26," added Camacho, who attended yesterday's Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting with CUC legal counsel James Sirok and board chair Miranda V. Manglona.

As of yesterday, CUC was already down to 24 and CUC personnel would continue with the project, part of FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant 406, until all poles are replaced with concrete ones.

Adrian Reyes is the project engineer.

Camacho said that what they would do now is to complete the project of replacing the wooden power poles so that areas that have critical need for uninterrupted electricity won't be affected by future storms.

"The idea now is to strategically do them and not affect the schools or any critical facility that needs power to be secured. That's kind of our target, having the critical facilities to have uninterrupted power like the [Commonwealth Health Center]," Camacho said.

"We're going to…continue completing this project and hopefully be able to do it without affecting these critical facilities. As I said, there were 50 power poles left when we asked for the extension and we've done 26 since then. The extension is through Feb. 4, 2019, but we plan to finish the project prior to the 2019 deadline."

CUC's project aims to replace all 787 wooden power poles on the island supported by a $7.2-million grant from FEMA. It is also part of FEMA's hazard mitigation project, which CUC aims to strengthen the CNMI's power and water supply and distribution in the event of disasters.

The project cost for labor, materials, and other equipment is 100 percent covered under FEMA's Section 406 assistance program. FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant 406 is a public assistance program that provides funds for mitigation measures to repair disaster-damaged facilities.

Manglona authorizes loosening attorney-client communication

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona authorized yesterday the disclosure of certain attorney-client communications in the case against a notary public who wants to withdraw his guilty plea in an indictment charging him with lying in a U.S. passport application for another person.

In granting the U.S. government's motion, Manglona authorized Liang Li's former counsel, Mark Scoggins, and Rene Holmes to give information to the government about attorney-client communications they had with Li, both written and oral.

Manglona said the extent of such communications involve or is related to the claims made in Li's motion to allow him to withdraw his guilty plea.

King

Last April 3, Li pleaded guilty to lying in a passport application.

Last May 29, Li's new counsel, Janet H. King, entered an appearance for Li.

Last Aug. 8, Li filed a presentence motion to allow him to withdraw his guilty plea. He alleged that his former counsel pressured him to take the prosecution's plea offer by giving him less than a day to consider it, telling him he had no chance of winning if he went to trial, and threatening him with prison time if he did not accept the offer.

Last Aug. 31, the U.S. government filed a motion for partial waiver and attached as an exhibit a copy of Li's email sent last Aug. 12 to the U.S. Department of Justice.

In the email, Li alleged that his former counsel had told him the case against him was "silly and frivolous" and would eventually be dismissed.

He further alleged that his former counsel scared him by saying he would be sexually assaulted in prison.

Manglona heard the motion yesterday.

Manglona said Li concedes that by raising claims based on ineffective assistance of counsel, he has impliedly waived attorney-client privileged "with respect to communications with his attorneys necessary to prove or disprove his claims."

Li asserts, however, that the scope of the waiver should be time-limited to the period from March 30 through April 3, 2018—from the date he received the plea agreement until the date he pleaded guilty.

The prosecutor asserted that any communications between his former counsel and Li concerning plea negotiations, throughout the course of the representations, have a bearing on whether the representa-

See MANGLONA on Next Page

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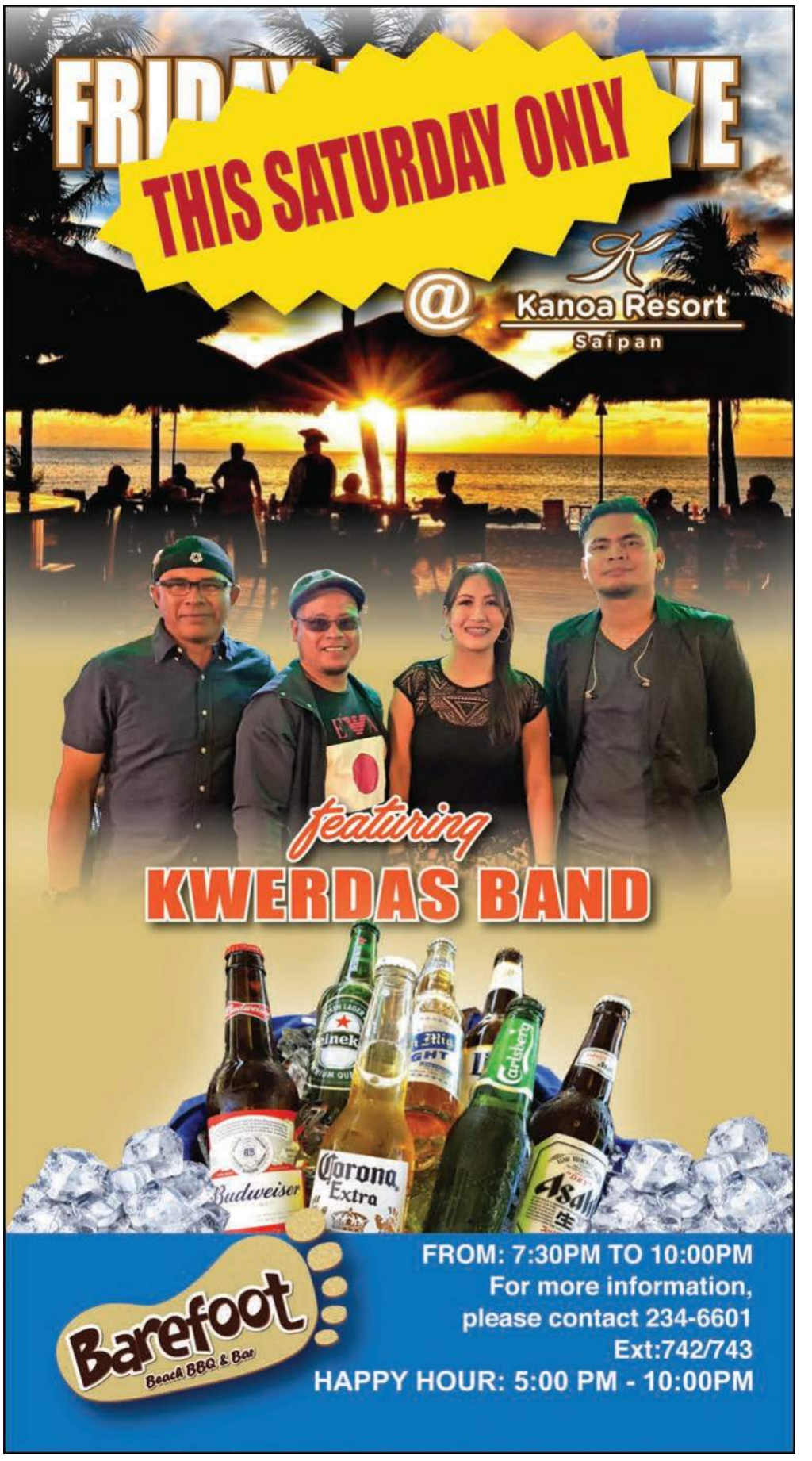

Legislative fix on CW-1 Act sought

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp. is seeking a legislative fix to two provisions of the Northern Mariana Islands Workforce Act of 2018, where foreign workers need to exit the CNMI for 30 days and the 10-day requirement to return to the Commonwealth once the CW-1 permit has been issued.

NMBAC chair Alex Sablan said these provisions in Public Law 115-218 would be an issue for the CNMI in the future, depending on how the new law that extends the CNMI Only Transitional Worker visa program up to 2029 is implemented.

Subsection A (i) states that "a permit for a Commonwealth-Only Transitional Worker (I) shall remain valid for a period that may not exceed one year; and (II) may be renewed for not more than two consecutive one-year periods.

"At the expiration of the second renewal period, an alien may not again be eligible for such a permit until after the alien has remained outside of the United States for a continuous period of at least 30 days prior to the submission of a renewal petition on their behalf," it says in subparagraph (ii).

Sablan said the 30 days that the foreign worker needs to be out of the CNMI after the second renewal period could either be implemented in 2020 or 2021—"depending on how the interpretation of the law plays out."

"We're asking in the interim rules to move that timeline… and not immediately so it gives us time to work on legislation to fix it. The only way to get it done is to have a legislative fix," said Sablan, who was part of the CNMI delegation that lobbied the U.S. Congress to pass the CW-1 extension.

He added they are hoping the timeline would be renewed since the 30-day break could mean a huge reduction again in the CNMI workforce. "At the end of the day, what we're talking about here is in 2020 or 2021, 90 to 95 percent of all CW-1 workers will have to depart the Commonwealth. …Break completely in their employment in the Commonwealth [and] renew in that timeline. So, in today's world, we can start the process in April of the current fiscal year for the next [FY] application [and] not with the break. The break requires that you start after you they depart the Commonwealth."

JON PEREZ
Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios, fifth left, joins guest speaker Alex Sablan, right, and other board members of their group in yesterday's general membership meeting at the Seaside Hall at Kanoa Resort.

Sablan said they would seek to abolish the provision or seek a staggered implementation. "So obviously we can't have a mass exodus of our workers in two years and so we're asking to get a legislative fix that will stagger that period."

"If not, we would like to get it abolished but [if] we can't get it abolished, then we would ask that to stagger that timeline over 12 to 24 months so people have the ability to renew and come back within the reasonable timeline."

Another issue that they want to be fixed is the 10-day requirement for a guest worker under the CW-1 visa program to come back to the CNMI once the permit has been released. Sablan said 10 days isn't enough to process the other needed documents.

"We don't think that's a sufficient time to [process documents] overseas. …We're asking that timeline be extended to 30 to 45 days so that individuals have the ability to return to the Commonwealth without the advent of a [Customs and Border Protection] officer interpreting that they are beyond their time and they are not able to re-enter the Commonwealth with an invalid travel document or even the visa itself. What we're asking for is to extend that to rectify those two concerns regarding the CW."

Woodruff found to have violated duties of competence and diligence in another case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI's disciplinary panel has found that disbarred lawyer Stephen C. Woodruff had violated his duties of competence and diligence in representing a client in another civil lawsuit that resulted in the dismissal and closure of the case.

Woodruff

The District Court panel judges imposed on Woodruff the same sanction that was imposed in his previous disciplinary matter, which is suspension from practice for one year.

The panel composed of District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona and designated judges Roberto C. Naraja and Teresa Kim-Tenorio did admit their failure to promptly tend to this case.

They first heard the disciplinary case against Woodruff on May 23, 2016. The judges, however, only issued their decision and order Tuesday.

"The court recognizes that it would be unfair to make an attorney start serving a term of discipline in late 2018 that, but for the court's inaction, might have already ended," the judges said.

The judges said the suspension shall run concurrently with the suspension in the previous disciplinary matter—from March 28, 2018, the date of the order modifying discipline.

They said Woodruff may continue representing clients in any open cases, which the court understands to be only the plaintiff in *Ramsey vs. Muna* case.

The judges said Woodruff is not permitted to enter appearances in new cases during his period of suspension.

They said Woodruff may apply for reinstatement after the expiration of at least one-half of the period of suspension.

The judges said U.S. District Court for Guam Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, who is the designated judge in Woodruff's previous disciplinary case, noted that the lawyer had missed crucial deadlines in his own reciprocal discipline case and offered up weak excuses.

The judges said Tydingco-Gatewood wrote, "Respondent's failure to attend to his own disciplinary cases mirrors the misconduct alleged in [the CNMI's disciplinary complaint]."

The judges said they draw attention to this related conduct only to show why they do not give much credit to Woodruff's protestations that he has a history of managing his caseload competently and diligently.

"What the panel saw in the evidence was an attorney who, for whatever reasons, was taking on more than he could handle, not just for a short period of acute stress but over the course of many years," the judges noted.

The judges said attorney discipline in the District Court may consist of disbarment, suspension for up to five years, public censure, or private reprimand.

Were it still 2016, they would likely impose disbarment or a period of suspension starting 30 days from now, the judges said. They said much time has passed, however.

The judges acknowledged that more than two years have passed since they took the matter of the sanction issue under advisement.

"The court is mindful of the irony of judging one of its own lawyers for failure to attend promptly to his client's matters when it has failed to promptly tend to this one," they said.

That failure, the judge said, is a disservice to Woodruff, complainant Murugesan S. Subbaiah, and prosecuting counsel Rexford C. Kosack, who worked long hours pro bono on the case.

In the meantime, the judges said, other disciplinary cases involving Woodruff have made their way through the CNMI and federal courts.

"It is against that background that this panel must decide how best to fairly bring the matter to a conclusion," the judges said.

On May 23, 2017, Manglona, Naraja, and Kim-Tenorio held a merits hearing in the disciplinary case involving Woodruff. Present at the hearing were Kosack and Woodruff.

The complaint for ethical violations stemmed from Woodruff's representation of Subbaiah on appeal of a civil judgment against him to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

The complaint alleged that Woodruff missed the deadline for filing his client's opening brief without having asked for more time, and failed to follow up on transcript requests with the District Court reporter.

Three months after the filing deadline had passed, appellee filed a motion to dismiss. Woodruff failed to file a response to the motion or to request an extension of time.

When the Ninth Circuit dismissed for failure to prosecute, Subbaiah himself filed a motion to reinstate the case. The Ninth Circuit denied it and gave Subbaiah 28 days to re-file it along with the opening brief.

Woodruff, who had never withdrawn from the representation, did not re-file the motion or file an opening brief. Three years later, the Circuit Clerk informed Subbaiah that the case would remain closed because of the failure to file an opening brief.

Subbaiah testified in the disciplinary case that he had paid Woodruff a total of $1,850 to pursue the appeal.

After hearing the arguments of the parties, the panel found that Kosack had proved that Woodruff had violated his duties of competence and diligence.

The panel then set a separate hearing for the penalty phase of the proceeding and invited briefs from the parties.

The panel held the sanctions hearing on June 15, 2016. After hearing the arguments of Woodruff and Kosack, the panel took the matter under advisement.

In 2013, then-Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman disbarred Woodruff from the practice of law in the CNMI for 44 violations of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

The CNMI Supreme Court affirmed the disbarment order in 2015. The District Court then issued to Woodruff a notice of intent to impose reciprocal discipline.

After Tydingco-Gatewood imposed the reciprocal discipline on March 9, 2017, Woodruff moved to modify the order.

Duenas pleads guilty, gets 6 months in prison

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A man who was charged with assault and battery and disturbing the peace pleaded guilty to one of the charges, cutting his sentence short by one year.

Joey Duenas, 38, pleaded guilty to disturbing the peace during an altercation. Duenas was also charged with assault and battery that he did not plead guilty to.

If Duenas had not pleaded guilty and had gone to trial and had been convicted of the charges against him, he could have faced a maximum sentence of one year and six months.

After the plea agreement, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho sentenced Duenas to a maximum of six months in prison without the possibility of parole, probation, early release, work release, or weekend release.

Duenas was also given credit for the 103 days he had already served in prison.

Duenas' bench trial that was set for Sept. 24, 2018, was also waived by the court.

On May 26, 2018, Duenas was arrested after an altercation between him and another individual.

Duenas was represented by his court-appointed counsel, Charles P. Reyes Jr., and the CNMI was represented by assistant attorney general Jonathan Robert Glass Jr.

ATALIG

From Page 1

Atalig is not eligible for a court-appointed counsel.

Manglona said Atalig would be able to pay or hire his own lawyer to represent him in the case.

Berline asked the court to proceed with the arraignment. Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto did not object. Manglona then proceeded with the arraignment.

Benedetto said the U.S. government does not object to allowing Atalig's continued release as he is not a flight risk and does not pose a danger to the community.

Manglona authorized Atalig to remain at liberty pending his trial, but prohibited him from leaving the CNMI without the court's permission.

A few relatives and friends watched the hearing.

Atalig refused to comment to the media about the case. He did not answer the question whether he will pursue his re-election bid considering that he has criminal cases both in federal and local court.

In the Superior Court case, the Office of the Attorney General charged Atalig and seven other municipal officials each with theft and misconduct in public office arising from the same political rally. The defendants' arraignment in local court is on Sept. 28.

MANGLONA

From Page 3

tion was adequate with respect to plea offers.

Manglona agreed with the U.S. government that the court needs to be able to explore communications outside the period when a written plea agreement was on the table so as to give context to the advice the former counsel gave Li.

The judge said to the extent doubt should exist as to whether a communication is subject to this order, Scoggins and Holmes shall submit them under seal for the court's review.

She said Scoggins and Holmes shall submit to King copies of any written materials that are disclosed to the U.S. government.

The indictment charged Liang Li and Yanan Li with lying in a passport application and false document.

SHRM president makes his first visit to Marianas

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Johnny C. Taylor Jr., president and chief executive officer of the Society of Human Resource Management—a human resources organization—focused on three points that would elevate the profession and human resource professionals in his keynote speech during the NMI Chapter's meeting yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

At the monthly SHRM meeting that was held at PIC's Charley's Cabaret, Taylor touched base on the importance of having a point of view and opinion, the importance of certification, and the importance of courage when dealing with people issues.

"The three things that we really talked about was one, having a point of view and an opinion on policy and advocacy matters; two, making sure that we are all certified and that we understand the body of knowledge and what is means to be an HR professional… and thirdly, we need to…take on issues of the day and most issues are people issues, not just business issues. Most issues that business people run into are people issues… so what we've encouraged our people is to focus on those three areas to elevate their profession," he said.

Taylor added that good H.R. isn't only found in bigger companies in the U.S. mainland; good H.R. can be found in small business in small islands like the Marianas.

"One thing that happens is, too often, we only look at the major companies in major parts of the country. … Good H.R. isn't just found in the mainland U.S., it's everywhere, including right here on Saipan," he said.

Taylor arrived early yesterday morning and left late yesterday evening to visit the SHRM Chapter in Guam.

In an interview with Taylor, he said he was excited to present in front of the NMI Chapter due to how active and welcoming the chapter members were.

"We have an active Chapter here; it is one of the two islands whee we actually have SHRM Chapter members on so I'm really excited to be here," he said.

When asked about his first experiences on Saipan, Taylor said the island is reminiscent of his home in Fort Lauderdale.

"It's absolutely my first trip here and I frankly didn't even know where Saipan was. I knew of Guam because my daughter is half-Guamanian but I didn't know where Saipan was and it has been wonderful. It reminds me so much of home, Fort Lauderdale, because it's humid and tropical…and the people are nice so I'm very pleased to be here," he said.

Society of Human Resource Management CEO and president Johnny Taylor Jr. graces SHRM NMI chapter with his presence during the chapter's monthly meeting yesterday.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Saipan beach red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the beach near the DPW Channel Bridge and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this location for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from this location contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

SSHS student obtains national honor

A student attending the Saipan Southern High School has been invited to join the National Society of High School Scholars based on her academic achievements.

Hemley

The NSHSS announced last Aug. 20 their selection of Megan Cleo P. Hemley into their organization, which boasts exclusive benefits for higher education and beyond to its over 1.5 million pool of scholars.

"On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that [Hemley] has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence," said NSHSS founder and chair Claes Nobel, a senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes. "[Hemley] is now a member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents our very best hope for the future."

NSHSS president James W. Lewis noted the organization's vision to provide a "lifetime membership to young scholars" to support their growth and development. "We aim to help students like [Hemley] build on their academic success by connecting them with unique learning experiences and resources to help prepare them for college and meaningful careers," he said.

Members of the NSHSS are automatically lifetime members.

Founded in 2002, the NSHSS recognizes academic excellence at the high school level and provides unique learning experiences, scholarships, internships, international study and peer networking.

For more information on NSHSS, head to www.nshss.org. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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House speaker: Court decision, learning experience

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) considers the recent finding by the CNMI Supreme Court that a law providing salary increases for elective officials is unconstitutional merely shows that checks and balances in the CNMI government are working.

The high court had ruled last week that Public Law 19-83, which would have given lawmakers and other officials of the executive and judicial branches of the government an 80-percent salary increase, is unconstitutional.

"I'm happy we have this clarification and guidance from the Supreme Court. I think we can all learn from this experience. This case is a great example of the checks and balances of our government," said Demapan, who introduced the measure, at that time pegged as House Bill 19-3.

He is also thankful for the high court for its opinion. "I'm truly thankful for the Supreme Court's opinion in the certified question. While the court noted that the composition of the advisory commission was constitutional, it also found that the raises set forth in P.L. 19-83 exceeded the amount of the [composite price index] adjusted salary by a small amount."

Demapan said the advisory commission recommended a $70,000 annual salary for each member of the Legislature, which was $336.15 more than the CPI's adjusted salary of $69,663.85. "It's a small but very significant rounding error but I totally respect the high court's ruling."

He added that he would now wait for the Superior Court's decision regarding on the salary raises followed in previous laws. "Moving forward, I am eager to see precisely what the Superior Court decides to do in this case with regards to the other raises from Public Laws 4-32 and 7-31."

"[PLs 4-32 and 7-31] were also unconstitutional because of similar highly technical issues. I'm sure the Superior Court will be fair and reasonable and, after the court rules, I'll have much more to say at that point."

Funds to go to community

Reps. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) and Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) said there's a provision in the legislation that would return the appropriated money back to the community. Both Precinct 1 lawmakers had voted in favor of the salary increase.

"That money is going back to the community. There's language in the bill and budget, in the event that, after six months and the Supreme Court have yet to issue a decision, then the money would go to an agency," said Guerrero, chairman of the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

He added the Legislature could not touch the money allocated for the salary increase, which remains under the care of the local Department of Finance.

Guerrero said his salary increase could have been used for his constituents in Precinct 1 for tents, tables, and their other needs. "You would have seen that go back to the community since your constituents will come to you for assistance. I have to say that I'm forking out [money from] my own pocket to assist my constituents in Precinct 1."

Guerrero said he's also using the constitutionally mandated budget for the operations of his office that included the salaries of the staff of each legislator. Each member of the Legislature is allocated an operational budget of $90,000 annually.

Article II Section 16 (b) of the CNMI Constitution states that "each member of each House shall receive an equal amount within this ceiling not to exceed $155,000 annually for office and related expenses including all expenses for travel. Members may voluntarily pool all or any part of these funds."

Demapan added that they had included in the fiscal year 2019 budget a provision that the money would go to an agency like the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

"I'm grateful that the court has finally made a decision on this matter. As we negotiated in the current budget, in the event the high court rules unfavorably, the funds for this purpose would go to CHCC to help defray the costs incurred as a result of uncompensated care and other services."

FIELD OF HEROES SPONSOR KIMBERLY A BAUTISTA

Representatives of Tanholdings Corp., right, led by Catherine Attao, center, vice president for corporate affairs, pose for a photo with McDonald's representatives led by Marcia Ayuyu, McDonald's Saipan and Guam owner, leftmost, during the check donation at McDonald's Middle Road, representing McDonald's sponsorship of the TanHoldings-led Field of Heroes event, set around Sept. 11 to show appreciation and gratitude to all military veterans, first responders, fire law enforcement officers, and fallen heroes.

Media group sponsors MINA's Green Gala

Younis Art Studio, Inc., which runs the newspaper *Marianas Variety*, has agreed to be a sponsor of this year's Green Gala.

Laila Younis-Boyer, Younis Art Studio president, expressed their company's support of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance, which hosts the Green Gala.

"It is our company's continual vision to be responsible stewards of our community and we gladly support the efforts of MINA and its programs that have lasting positive effects on our environment and encourage active social engagement from all our stakeholders. Thank you, MINA, we appreciate all that you do," said Boyer.

MINA continues to be the "eyes and ears" of the ocean with its Tasi Watch program, and their rangers are out every week doing surveillance of the crucial watershed areas, as well as the maintenance and upkeep of the recycling bins in MINA's Adopt-a-Bin program.

MINA strives to build on the culture of recycling, and stages outreach and education programs throughout the year at various public events to spread the word about the need to keep our land and sea litter free.

MINA also develops programs that focuses on school-aged children, and has implemented the Schools for Environmental Conservation, wherein students and their advisors learn about and initiate their own conservation action plans on their school campuses.

The annual Green Gala, which is critical in raising much needed funds to keep these programs viable, will happen on Friday, Sept. 14, at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Parking is available to guests at the American Memorial Park. Call 233-7333 for more information. ***(MINA)***

Marianas Variety sales and graphic team Riana Capalad, Loida Martinez, Noemi Borromeo and Jeanette Sarabia join MINA executive director Roberta Guerrero, Daniel Kaipat, and Michelle Kautz in presenting the company's sponsorship for this year's Green Gala. MINA

EPA funding $2.73M for CUC water projects in Gualo Rai and Fina Sisu

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.coms
REPORTER

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is funding a project with an estimated cost of $1.45 million that will replace the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s aging and leaking water lines in Gualo Rai.

EPA is also funding a project with an estimated cost of $1.28 million that will increase the reliability of 24-hour water supply in Fina Sisu.

The water lines in the two villages were among the projects that EPA inspector John Tinger discussed in his declaration filed before the U.S. District Court for the NMI. The declaration was in support of the U.S. government's August status report on CUC projects.

Tinger said the Gualo Rai project will replace approximately 8,400 linear feet of water mains in the village. CUC has identified this area as a priority due to the aging, leaking and undersized water lines.

The undersized lines increase the difficulty of providing sufficient water volume and pressure to customers in Gualo Rai for 24-hour water service, said Tinger who is EPA's designated coordinator for stipulated order No. 1 projects.

SO1 focuses on drinking water and wastewater and the restructuring of CUC's organization. It requires CUC to have an EPA-approved comprehensive drinking water and wastewater master plan to determine infrastructure needs and to provide a long-term plan for CUC's drinking water and wastewater system improvements.

Tinger said the Gualo Rai project is in the contractor award phase.

As for the Fina Sisu project, Tinger said the plan includes replacing 7,000 linear feet of 6" and 8" water mains, including valve and service connections to increase reliability of 24-hour water service in the village.

Tinger said the project is currently in the design phase.

For the first time, 100 percent of Saipan residents had a 24-hour water supply from CUC last month, according to CUC water/wastewater division manager Gary Byra.

CBP announces job vacancies

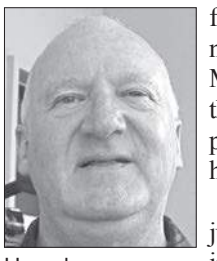
U.S. Customs and Border Protection is amplifying its workforce by opening five officer positions in the CNMI.

According to U.S. CBP Field Operations director Brian J. Humphrey, CBP is responsible for protecting the borders and ensuring the lawful flow of persons and goods into our country.

"In discussions with the Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, adding five officer positions is one of the next steps we are taking here in the NMI. This additional officer positions… will add strength to the existing number of officers at the airport," he said

Humphrey said there are five local hires who are currently in the training academy.

"This is a good message in terms of staffing and recruitment and we are headed in that direction. CBP also have plans of having job vacancy announcement every month as we only pick a select number of locations with critical needs and add that as an option for someone to apply as a starting point to begin their federal career," he added.


Humphrey

Humphrey said that staffing is a critical component in the CBP but over the years they've had a complete change of mindset, working with partners and what international travel means in the CNMI.

"We no longer view this as only a CBP experience as we work very closely with the Commonwealth Ports Authority, carriers, we've signed public partnership agreements for reimbursable services, the facilities, and technology that CPA and Marianas Visitors Authority have been supportive in rolling out," he said,

"So it's more than just CBP or staffing issue—it's the whole experience as well as working with the administration. We are excited where we are and where we are headed as CBP and our role contributing to the community. …We know we have a role to play in terms of helping foster lawful travel and trade, expanding economic opportunities, travel opportunities for visitors while at the same time, protecting the border," he added. ***(Bea Cabrera)***

OIA: CNMI clear of snakes—as yet

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Blanco

To date, the CNMI is free of brown tree snakes and preventing this particular invasive specie from propagating on the islands is the priority of the U.S. Office of Insular Affairs.

According to U.S. OIA CNMI field representative Harry C. Blanco, their office is responsible for initiating programs for the eradication of brown tree snakes and coconut rhino beetles in Guam and the CNMI.

"These species are under our jurisdiction… We will never eradicate all the brown tree snakes in Guam, that's why we are doing a lot of prevention here on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Currently, brown tree snakes have not reached our islands," he said.

"We have received reports of sightings a year and a half ago and we immediately activated a task force to come here and do a thorough search. Fortunately, nothing was found," he added.

In terms of monitoring and preventing the entry of brown tree snakes, Blanco said there are biologists in Hawaii who are assigned to handle Guam and CNMI issues. "Aside from those biologists in Hawaii, we have biologists and doctors on island who are doing a tremendous job monitoring the ports."

"Unfortunately, brown tree snakes in Guam are rampant as well as coconut rhino beetles as the latter are destroying all the coconuts on the island of Guam. We found a lot of rhino coconut beetles on Rota and it's good that we got there on time to contain it. We hope to continue the eradication process to completely wipe out the spread of coconut rhino beetles before they come to Saipan, Tinian, and the Northern Islands," he added.

A conference on invasive species will take place in Guam in November.

"We have active working groups that focuses not only on brown tree snakes and coconut rhino beetles but other invasive species as well. All the regional areas will be going to that meeting," Blanco said.

"Recently, OIC awarded the CNMI $181,000 for the coconut beetle eradication on Rota … other projects that we get grants for are Capital Improvement Projects, the corals and energizing the insular community to promote use of solar panels," Blanco added.

Man who threw machete at cop pleads guilty

The 22-year-old man accused of burglarizing a house in Chinatown and throwing a machete at a police officer a few months ago has pleaded guilty to all charges.

During a change of plea agreement last Tuesday, 22-year-old Kition Emor pleaded guilty to three charges: assault with a dangerous weapon and two counts of disturbing the peace.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo sentenced Emor to 150 days in prison but waived the 117 days he had already served. Emor will be released from the Department of Corrections on Oct. 7, 2018.

Aside from serving time in prison, Emor will also pay Robert Torres $527 in restitution for the damage done to his home.

Assistant attorney general Robert "Charlie" Lee appeared for the government. Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig served as counsel for Emor.

According to police, an officer was dispatched last May 10 at 12:59am to Freedom Drive in Chinatown due to a reported disturbance.

When the officer arrived at a house, he felt an object fly by him and noticed it was a machete. A man, identified as Emor, was standing on the roof of the house. He was shouting at the officer and challenging him.

Other officers arrived at the scene. Emor tried to run away, but one officer grabbed him. Three other officers assisted in arresting him.

A woman guided the officers to her house, where she showed the windows in the garage, the window by the stairs, and the sliding door outside the back of the house, which Emor allegedly damaged to get inside. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

Water outage in Tanapag, San Roque

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on Saturday, Sept. 8, from 9am to 5pm in San Roque and Tanapag.

The purpose of the water service interruption is to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s personnel to repair a damaged 4-inch water main line at the entrance of As Matuis near the Welcome Sign across the entrance of Pau Pau Beach, San Roque. As a result of the repair, a more reliable water system will be provided to the community. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water services soon after.

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282). ***(CUC)***

AMENDMENT NO. 3

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 11, 2018, 5:00 PM

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe
Tel: 234-9661 ● Fax: 234-9666 ● www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 06/04/2018 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings:

1. Conditional Use Application #2018-1979: Ya Myoung Corporation is proposing to relocate and occupy Room No. 1-1 on the ground floor of an existing building to manufacture and process Noni juice. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1826-2 in Chalan LauLau. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

2. Conditional Use Application #2018-1998: RJCL Corporation dba RNV Construction is proposing to renovate and occupy three (3) existing one-storey structures with a total of 25 beds for staff housing. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. EA 109 NEW-1 in Chalan Kiya. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

3. Conditional Use Application #2018-2248: Eunice SPN Corporation is proposing to occupy 2 existing one-storey structures with a total of 5 units to operate a Bed & Breakfast establishment. This use is classified as "Bed & Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 399-3-1-R1 in As Lito. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

4. Conditional Use Application #2018-2259: Yumiko Corporation is proposing to occupy Unit No. GF-1 of the American Tour Inn building to operate a Copy Center, Small Print, and Sign Shop. This project is classified as "Copy Center, Small Print, and Sign Shop" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. H 314-2-R1 in As Lito. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

5. Conditional Use Application #2018-2711: UMDA Wholesale/Retail Inc. dba Island Apparel is proposing to relocate its business from Puerto Rico to Koblerville and occupy an existing one-storey building for manufacturing and processing of apparels. This project is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 023 I 02 in Koblerville. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

6. Conditional Use Application #2018-2834: American Sinopan, LLC dba Capitol Hill Residence is proposing to amend its Conditional Use Permit No. 2017- 2409 (Heaven II Resort) to include the construction of 12 residential villas and a clubhouse as part of their Phase II Heaven II project. This use is classified as "Planned Development/Hotel" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on TR22667-2-R1, TR22667-5, and TR22667-R5 in Capitol Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.

C. Communication

D. Old Business:
1. Update on proposed amendments to the Zoning Law

E. New Business
1. Review/Update on Sin Ho Nam Litigation
2. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

Chief Taga Festival on Oct. 2-7 on Tinian

On Oct. 2-7, 2018, the Marianas will host its first festival in honor of one of its most legendary historic figures, Chamorro chief Taga, to be called "Gineptin Ha 'anen Taga'" or Chief Taga Festival. The festival will be held on Tinian, recorded as the place where Taga last lived and was buried.

Tinian is also home to the House of Taga, a landmark on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places and the site of the largest standing limestone latte stones in the Marianas, which served as support pillars for ancient Chamorro structures.

The Chief Taga Festival will be held on Oct. 2-7, 2018, on the island of Tinian in celebration of the legendary Chamorro chief. MVA

"We invite all our Marianas residents to the beautiful island of Tinian to celebrate Taga Day 2018. This event is unique opportunity to showcase Tinian's culture and our historical figure of Chief Taga to the Marianas and the world," said Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas. "I look forward to everyone's participation. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the Marianas Visitors Authority for their sponsorship and to all those involved in coordinating this event, especially Mr. Joseph San Nicolas, my special assistant of indigenous affairs."

The event is jointly organized by the Tinian Mayor's Office, the 16th Tinian Municipal Council, and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

"Chief Taga is one of the most recognizable figures in Marianas history and mythology," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "In Spanish written records, Taga was recorded as aiding in shipwrecked sailors off the reef near Tinian in the 1600s. In our mythology, Taga was born on Rota to Tinian and was known to possess superhuman strength, uprooting a coconut tree as a young child to catch a coconut crab and leaping from Rota to Tinian. We are excited to partner with the Tinian Mayor's Office and Tinian Municipal Council to bring this story to life for visitors and residents."

Activities for the week kick off on Oct. 2 with a festival logo competition for students in the Marianas. On Oct. 3-5, a panel of scholars will make school presentations at Tinian Elementary School, Tinian Jr./Sr. High School, and Grace Christian Academy Tinian.

On Oct. 6, the festival will welcome all on- and off-island VIPs and special guests. On Oct. 7, an official opening ceremony will be held at the Tinian festival grounds in San Jose village. The day's activities will include preparation and sale of Chamorro ethnic food, a sling stone throwing demonstration, demonstrations on the various applications of the coconut tree, jewelry making from natural products, and more.

For more information, contact San Nicolas of the Tinian Mayor's Office at 1 (670) 433-1802 or email.joesntiq@gmail.com, the 16th Municipal Council at 1 (670) 433-3470, or MVA Field Office supervisor Vida Borja at vborja@mymarianas.com or 1 (670) 433-9365. ***(MVA)***

Exchange students discuss bridging Asia-Pacific relations

Renewing their interest in public service, Beijing and Hong Kong exchange students returned to the Commonwealth to learn about government functions, economic differences, tourism and opportunities for students.

As part of a pilot exchange program, which began in 2016 to bridge Asia-Pacific relations, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres welcomed six students from Beijing and Hong Kong to the Office of the Governor.

"At the rate of globalization, it has been very enlightening to learn about their perspectives and to share our culture and customs with them. Educational tourism is one niche we've begun to explore, and I'm always pleased to welcome visiting students and the youth in our community to learn more about functions of the Executive Branch. We hope to continue building stronger Asia-Pacific relations through this initiative and create more economic and educational opportunities," Torres said.

The students discussed the unique relationship between the United States and the CNMI through the Covenant, and the possibilities for Asia-Pacific partnership.

First-time exchange student Harry Wang said the program is a great opportunity to learn about the rich history and culture of the islands.

"It's truly a pleasure to understand the work of the police, customs, and the governor's office—laboring together to protect this peaceful land. No doubt that people who live here have experienced terrible challenges, but they welcome these challenges with nothing but their courage and kindness. The people here have survived Spain's colonization, withstood Germany's control, and stood in the most destructive wars in our history; and stood strong in typhoons and they've only gotten stronger and continue to thrive," Wang said.

For the second time around, siblings Marissa and Macardle Meng returned to the program and toured the neighboring island of Tinian.

Macardle, who will be finishing high school in New York, highlighted that during the experience of visiting the Department of Public Safety, Division of Customs, and the Office of the Governor, he gained a lot of insight into the effects of tourism in the Commonwealth.

"I was able to assist and help translate information for arrivals of international flights. Through further conversations, I learned about some of the issues related to the safety of the island. Due to the massive amount of foreign visitors and car rental companies, extra safety precautions must be taken, especially since stop signs are not universal to every country in the world," Macardle said.

Macardle also shared his views on the economic differences between Hong Kong and mainland China and its overall influence on culture and national identity.

The six students who took part in the exchange program are Meilin Guo, Yun Huang, Yvonne Yin, Macardle Meng, Marissa Meng, and Harry Wang and was facilitated in partnership with Bridge Investment Group and Tinian Municipal Council member Philip Mendiola-Long. ***(PR)***

The six students who took part in the exchange program pose with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres at the Office of the Governor during a recent visit. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tina Sablan to host forum for Precinct 2

Christina "Tina" Sablan, an independent candidate for CNMI House of Representatives Precinct 2, invites all residents, business operators, cultural experts, history buffs, environmental champions, health and safety advocates, and other community members who care about revitalizing the villages of Precinct 2, to join in a special forum next week Wednesday, Sept. 12, at the Joeten Daidai Social Hall in Chalan Kanoa (next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral), from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. The forum is titled, "Our Sense of Place."

Sablan

"The idea is to bring people together to have a conversation about the strengths of our precinct, and also the needs and opportunities," Sablan said. "And we'll start by identifying the places that are important to people—socially, culturally, economically, historically, environmentally. Places in need of repair or cleanup. Places that need to be protected. Places that should be made safer and healthier.

"When we have a strong sense of place, that is, where we are, we can also begin to form a vision for where we want to be," she added.

Sablan, who holds a master's degree in urban and regional planning, is teaming up with mapping expert Robbie Greene to present maps of the villages that make up Precinct 2, with a focus on Chalan Kanoa and Susupe.

Forum participants will be asked to identify places in the precinct that are important to them, and the reasons why. One objective for the forum will be a tangible, public product that the community can use to visualize their concerns and valued spaces, and to make decisions.

"Ultimately, our goal is to develop a plan and a set of priorities for Precinct 2 that can help guide our collective activities to make our villages healthier, safer, more livable, and more beautiful," Sablan said.

"If this process is successful in our precinct, it could be a model for other precincts to consider as well," she added.

Precinct 2 includes the villages of Chalan Kanoa, Susupe, Fina Sisu, As Lito, and As Perdido.

"Our Sense of Place" is free and open to the public. All are welcome, and light refreshments will be served.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Christina Sablan at 285-3935 or email tinasablan@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

T Galleria to host Marianas art gallery in Sept.

The Marianas' Cultural Art Gallery, featuring creations of the indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian people of the Marianas, will open at T Galleria on Saturday, Sept. 8.

With September being celebrated in the Commonwealth as Cultural Heritage Month, the Marianas' Cultural Art Gallery will be up all month long at the T Galleria, with nightly activities such as live performances or demonstrations by local artists.

"DFS is proud to be a partner with [the Department of Culture and Community Affairs] in exhibiting locally made masterpieces and supporting our local artists," said DFS president Marian Aldan-Pierce.

The art gallery is the first of its kind, with most items on display available for purchase and will be accompanied by live demonstrations and performances. Demonstrations will occur nightly from 7pm to 9pm and includes *mwar* making by Polla Aguon, Del Lieto, and Patricia Mareham; various jewelry making by Martin Castro, Mike Naputi, and Melchy Billy that use beads, shells and *sinahi*; weaving by Patrick Romolor; and wood carving by Mike Finey. Live musical performances and dances will be done on select evenings by FMS Middle School, Polksai, Uuralis, Man Antigo Dancers, Refaluwasch Warriors, Iune Wabol, Abby Kaipat, Ben Laniyo, and Marco Peter.

"Long before luxury brands were introduced to the world, our ancestors were delicately weaving coconut leaves into fashionable baskets and carving beads out of shells to make *Refaluwasch* necklaces called the *Lúghatutur*," said a visitor of the gallery. "The juxtaposition of the Marianas' Cultural Art Gallery between such worldly brands brings an organic energy to T Galleria as beautifully handcrafted items and original paintings done by local artists are displayed for tourists to see up close."

The Marianas' Cultural Art Gallery will be up all month long at the T Galleria, with nightly activities such as live performances or demonstrations by local artists. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The official launch of the Marianas' Cultural Art Gallery is this Saturday, Sept. 8, from 5pm to 6pm at the southern end of T Galleria.

The gallery is made possible in partnership by T Galleria by DFS, Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture of the DCCA. For more information, call 664-2587 or 322-9982. ***(PR)***

Hattori named editor of *The Journal Of Pacific History*

Dr. Anne Perez Hattori, professor of History and CHamoru Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Guam, has been selected as an editor of *The Journal of Pacific History*.

Hattori is the first indigenous Pacific Islander to hold the editorial post.

Hattori

Hattori teaches courses in Guam and Pacific Islands history, gender, historiography, and research methods at the university. She completed her Ph.D. in Pacific History in 1999 from the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, and her doctoral research was published in 2004 as *Colonial Dis-Ease: US Naval Health Policies and the Chamorros of Guam, 1898-1941* in the Pacific Islands Monograph Series, UH Press.

"Since I began studying Pacific Islands history in Hawaii, I was inspired by the pivotal role of JPH in shaping Pacific history as a legitimate field of study and in establishing the highest standards of historical research within our field. I'm honored and excited to become a part of this history."

Hattori is the current president of the Pacific History Association and is also co-editor of the forthcoming *Cambridge History of the Pacific Ocean*, a two-volume, 64-chapter publication of Cambridge University Press due out in 2020.

Launched in 1966 from the world's first Department of Pacific History at the Australian National University, JPH is now the leading refereed journal dedicated to the study of the Pacific Islands' pasts. It is guided by two editors and a large editorial board. JPH is published four times per year and is available electronically or in hard copy through over 20,000 libraries worldwide.

JPH serves a broad community of historians, prehistorians, anthropologists, and scholars from a cross-section of disciplines. We publish articles in political, economic, religious and cultural history; critical surveys; comment; and analysis of contemporary developments. We also publish review articles, reviews (of books, media, performance, and exhibitions), primary documents and notes on source materials. Contributions of a comparative or theoretical nature that address questions of significance for Oceania are welcome. JPH on occasion publishes articles in French. ***(UOG)***

Candidates debates survey open

In preparation for the 2018 Candidate Debates, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Northern Marianas College have created a survey as a way for the community to express their concerns on topics of interest by providing questions for the gubernatorial and congressional candidates.

These moderated debates will be composed of questions selected from those submitted via this poll. One question from each topic will be selected for each candidate type. Please provide at least one question for each of the 10 listed topics for each of the respective offices; if possible, provide two questions, as a larger pool will allow better identification of questions most appropriate to the topic. All questions should be submitted by 5pm, Monday, Sept. 17, 2018 at surveymonkey.com/r/Q3FK7F8.

Debate topics will include: environment and sustainable development, immigration, veterans benefits, healthcare, education, cannabis, gaming, welfare, and workforce. The survey also provides an option for community members to suggest other topics.

The U.S. Delegate Debate is slated for Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018, and the Gubernatorial Debate is slated for the following Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018. Both debates will be held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center from 6pm to 8:30pm. All tickets have been sold. ***(SCC)***

Sengebau poetry competition on Oct. 16

The 15th Annual Valentine Sengebau Poetry Competition will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018, 6pm at the American Memorial Park Visitor's Center.

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council would like to invite all the middle schools and high schools to participate and for all of the CNMI to attend.

Each year the junior division Recites poems from the book *Microchild* and the senior division recites their original poems that address the theme of culture, identity, and change. The prizes for both junior division and senior division is first place $250, second place $150, and third place $100. First place winners in each division will have their names and school names inscribed on perpetual trophies that will be housed at the winning schools until next year's competition.

The late Valentine Sengebau was a Palauan turned Saipan resident who wrote poems about the personal, political and cultural life in Micronesia. In 2004, to ensure that his work will be enjoyed by future generations, the Northern Marianas Humanities Council published an anthology of his poetry, *Microchild*. The annual Valentine Sengebau Poetry Competition was established to support the work of young Micronesian poets and to honor the legacy of Micronesia's foremost poet.

For more information on the competition, call the council at 235-4785 or email program officer Farah Younis at farah.nmhc@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

UOG hosts extension meeting Sept. 20

MANGILAO, Guam—The University of Guam Cooperative Extension and Outreach will recognize Maria S. Connelley, Rowena S. Dela Cruz, Linda Tatreau, and Bernard Watson for their leadership, support, and dedicated service to the island community and for promoting the university's Cooperative Extension and Outreach in Guam.

The honorees will be recognized at the Extension Annual Meeting on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018, at the Dusit Thani Resort Guam. Of the four nominees, one will be selected to receive the Guam Friend of Extension Award and will be submitted for recognition throughout the national extension system.

The event will also showcase education and program impacts from the university's research and extension efforts to address the needs of Guam and its communities. ***(UOG)***

CRM: Permittees must have land use permits

The Division of Coastal Resources Management has informed all current and future permittees that they must have land use permissions to engage in projects or activities at proposed site locations. For private lands, submission of proof of valid leases are required. For public lands, permission from the Department of Public Lands or, in the case of submerged lands or within marine protected areas, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, may be required. If there are any questions or concerns with this requirement, contact (670) 664-8300. ***(PR)***

Weightlifting Federation meeting on Saturday

The CNMI Weightlifting Federation invites all persons interested in the sport of weightlifting to an open meeting to be held on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018, starting at 10:30am at the NMPASI conference room in Gualo Rai, Saipan. Discussion at the meeting will focus on plans, ideas, and goals for the promotion and participation of CNMI weightlifters in upcoming international weightlifting competitions and the 2021 Micro Games.

For more information, contact John Davis at 789-9211 or by email at johnhdavisjr@gmail.com or Jeanne Rayphand at 287-9807 or by email at jeanneesq@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

CHamoru commission meetings in Sept., Oct.

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tåno' *(Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam)* will have its September and October monthly meetings on Thursday, Sept. 13 and 27 and Oct. 11 and 25, from 12:30pm to 3pm at the Department of Parks and Recreation Paseo conference room in Hagåtña. Agenda items include but are not limited to: approval of minutes, reports from the chair, vice chair, secretary and committee chairs, financial matters, orthography revisions, and strategic plans and implementation activities. Work sessions will also be held on Thursdays, Sept. 6 and 20 and Oct. 4 and 18, from 12:30pm to 3pm at the same venue.

For more information contact Kumisión chair/Gé'hilo' Hope Alvarez Cristobal at 483-0097 or secretary/Sikritåria Rosa Salas Palomo at 727-5522. ***(PR)***

Military training at Warning Area 517, FDM

The military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Sept. 5 and 6, from 3pm to 11pm.

The military will also conduct training at the Island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Sept. 5, from 11am to 2pm
- Sept. 9, from 12:01am to 11:55pm

It is recommended that the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Banks are open for public use.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

The Village Voice turns out the lights

In this Nov. 27, 2013 photo, plastic newspaper boxes for The Village Voice stand along a Manhattan sidewalk in New York. AP

We gather to bestow final rites on the Village Voice, once a giant of New York City print journalism, a global beacon for social and political and artistic movements chronicled in its pages, reduced last year to a URL and, as of Friday, to a legacy.

But what a legacy—not least, of herculean reporting that exposed the corruptions of New York City's powerful. That incubated and sustained giants like Wayne Barrett, Jack Newfield, Jennifer Gonnerman, Tom Robbins, Colson Whitehead, J.A. Lobbia, Pete Hamill, Stanley Crouch.

That introduced the world to a hustler named Donald Trump shaking down the city for aid. That blew the whistle on corruption in the city's powerful Board of Estimate and in dank corners of the Koch administration. And championed workers, and the heroes and heroines of Stonewall, and women's quest for power and justice, and black and Latino and Asian and immigrant New Yorkers for theirs.

That pilloried the worst among us—slum landlords, slack judges—and celebrated the best you'd never heard of in music, film, dance, art, life.

Whose song will never be heard except in replay, and must never be left to fade from memory.

(c)2018 New York Daily News

E-cigarette makers are getting rid of sweet flavors we like...
SCHOOL VISITORS →
That does it. I'm going back to Marlboros!
MARGULIES

A call for foreign language departments in all CNMI public schools

Editor's Note: The following is an open letter to all agencies, organizations, their representatives, educational and workforce stakeholders, and other individuals attending the 2018 Education Summit.

By JOEY CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly, a retired teacher, is a prolific poet who calls Tinian home.

I would like to call for the establishment of a foreign language department in all CNMI public schools. This department would be separate from and not interfere with the indigenous languages of Chamorro and Carolinian and their respective programs currently being funded and taught in CNMI schools.

The foreign language department, or FLD, would be in addition to and/or incorporated in the Kuder assessment career pathways being implemented by CNMI PSS, Northern Marianas Trades Institute, and Northern Marianas College. It would be used to assist identification of occupational and career trends and give students more productive and desirable job skills and abilities to bring to the workplace and ostensible college careers.

The six initial languages I suggest being taught are Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tagalog, Spanish, and Latin. The first three languages are obvious important languages to help CNMI students and workers entering into various aspects of our tourist industry. Tagalog is a language spoken by perhaps more than one third of our public school students and their families. Spanish is, of course, a Romance language and there is heavy borrowing from it in the family of Austronesian languages spoken here, Chamorro and Tagalog. Spanish is also offered in over 8,000 U.S. mainland high schools. Latin is of paramount importance and use in most science fields, medicine, and law.

According to a 2008 survey, 88 percent of language programs in U.S. elementary schools taught Spanish, compared to 93 percent in U.S. secondary schools. Other languages taught in U.S. high schools in 2008, in descending order of frequency, were French, German, Latin, Mandarin Chinese, American Sign Language, Italian, and Japanese.

The June 2017 National K-12 Foreign Language Enrollment Survey reports on the three West Coast states where most Chamorros live: in the state of Washington, 24 high schools offer Chinese, 32 offer Japanese; in the state of Oregon 12 high schools offer Chinese, 18 offer Japanese; and in California, 108 high schools offer Chinese and 49 offer Japanese. Interestingly, in Florida, where I don't think there are many Chinese immigrant groups, over 7,000 students are studying Chinese. My guess is that is for tourist-related jobs, like Disneyland. The state of Massachusetts has 20,548 high schools students taking Latin. My guess there is the large number of universities in Massachusetts and Connecticut specializing in the fields of science, medicine, and law.

I'll try and decrease bloviation here. Some suggestions:

Grades K-6 could be Friday enrichment, with short appropriate grade level lessons on culture, language, music, short counting songs, birthday, and animal songs. Middle and high schools grades 7 to 12 would have b basic oral conversation two or three times a week as an elective. FLD teachers could get "special contracts" as Chamorro and Carolinian teachers do. FLD teachers could teach at two different schools, say Monday and Wednesday at one high school and Tuesday and Thursday at another school. Fridays they could alternate back and forth for language labs and enrichment. Part-time positions could be offered. Every attempt should be made to hire from the community of local speakers of each respective language from people already here on Saipan, Tinian, or Rota. Latin would be the sole problem with that.

The program could begin within the English department of each respective school and be headed in its inception by a teacher in that school who is already fluent in either Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tagalog, or Spanish. I have a feeling they are out there. Local businesses might offer a volunteer in a language for one semester at a time for a few hours a week. The classes themselves might be one or two semester courses, depending on upper grade level, career plans, and need or desire for a certain language elective.

Students could use a common online course in each respective language and half of each class period as an active language usage lab.

See LANGUAGE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Breaking generational cycles of poverty

By GERARD VAN GILS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Gerard van Gils is executive director of the Marianas Young Professionals and is the CNMI's 2017 Teacher of the Year.

I started the Million Dollar Scholars program to inspire my Kagman High School students to break out of persistent cycles of poverty through higher education. Obstacles as simple as a passport application or as difficult as off-island relocation to attend college were holding my students back. When a single student exits the poverty cycle, the whole family is helped. A family elevates the village, the village elevates an island, and soon our whole Commonwealth is improved by the education of a single scholar; by this August, we will have assisted more than 90 scholars to attend college on scholarships in the last three years.

For the last years, I have done this work with the support of my school and friends, but with no major funding, no corporate support, and without an organized professional network. All of this has changed with a major donation by Imperial Pacific International.

The Million Dollar Scholars has partnered with a vertically aligned professional organization, the Marianas Young Professionals, to start preparing internships, jobs, and professional growth for our scholars who will soon return to their home-islands with diplomas and skills that are badly needed. I am the newly installed executive director of this CNMI non-profit organization. This progress has been possible because of IPI.

With this major investment from IPI, we have been able to hire college preparation teachers, from a rich on-island talent pool, to teach college entrance exam preparation to public high school students on Saipan (tripling our previous capacity). We were also able to bring meaningful technology education to the students of the CNMI, offering summer technology camps to more than 80 students and teachers. Our MYPros college preparation interns helped outgoing scholars apply for scholarships, book flights, open bank accounts, and do all things needed to ensure that the great leap to higher education is successful for our young people. Our educational support, community non-profit organization, is strengthening and growing. This results in considerable benefit of our scholars, their families, and our community. This is how we begin to serve.

Education alone doesn't break generational cycles of poverty. For that we need economy.

In the near future we hope to create an incubator space for young professionals to start businesses, thus diversifying and supporting the economy of the CNMI. We have started placing college scholars into summer internships with local companies, tying our scholars back to the islands professionally to entice our young professionals back to their home islands where they are needed. Those internships will turn into local job placements after college. This effort combats retention difficulties and creates new employment. Rather than losing our young people, who possess the most potential to elevate their communities, we are bringing them home and getting them to work. We are creating "brain gain."

This work has led to my being awarded as the 2017 State Teacher of the Year, the 2017 PREL Pacific Educator of the Year, and various local awards and recognitions as well. The success of this work has enabled me to advocate for our students, workers, and businesses in the CNMI, from the halls of Kagman High to the halls of the U.S. Congress, and even to the Oval Office and the desk of President Trump. The Million Dollar Scholars and MYPros model is based on researched "best practices" for student success and poverty elimination. And, best of all, we are just beginning! Only now, after many years of solitary struggle, does this work have growth potential, thanks to the major financial support of Imperial Pacific International.

Over the next months and years, we will continue to train and teach our students with the same philosophy that got us started: students grow into scholars, scholars grow into young professionals, and young professionals grow into leaders who serve their communities. I am pleased to share our success and I am most pleased to share gratitude to Imperial Pacific International. It is my sincere hope that their continued success in the CNMI will lead to further success for this organization and the larger community whom we serve.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Let's do something about our stray dogs

Isn't it time we did something about the island's stray dog problem? Currently there is a public outcry to have the stray dog issue addressed differently, regardless of how people feel about dogs or what group they fall into.

After doing some volunteer work at both of the shelters this year, we decided to help out by doing some local adoption events such as the Thursday Market, 360 market, Joeten Superstore (Costco), Atkins Kroll, and others. It was great to see some animals get adopted, but something else happened. I didn't notice the significance the first time, but after a few weeks it kicked in.

Week after week, groups of locals started to gather around and talk about the stray dog situation. These discussions would get heated and loud, and you could tell that people were passionate about this issue. Many locals had different views and reasons why it mattered, some I had never even thought of. But, it appeared that the "nobody cares" view—that I had been led to believe—was wrong. Aside from the obvious animal lovers and pet owners, we had:

- Tourists, who are saddened to see sickly and starving dogs everywhere on their vacation.
- Parents, who worry about their children being bitten or chased by packs of stray dogs.
- Drivers, who don't want to get in a wreck because a dog or cat runs in front of their car.
- Business owners, who work hard on their property's appearance, only to have sickly dogs running around.
- Shelter employees. Often overlooked are the employees of the current dog control program. They are forced to kill dozens of healthy animals every week in a program that is not improving the current stray dog population. It is wearing on their souls and is more than we should ask of any of our residents. All shelters deal with this, but not in such an exponential volume as we are asking of them.

I headed to the Legislature to see what could be done. I met with Rep. Ed Propst first to see where I should start. After telling him about the groups that gathered in heated discussion, his reply was simple: "Find out if there are more people that care." With this advice, we printed out 10 petitions and placed them in 10 stores around island. The petition asked if you were interested in "a government-funded vet that can provide low-cost, affordable spay and neuter for their animals (often less than $25)." The response was great. Not only did the petitions fill up both signature pages, people also flipped them over and added more signatures to the back. Even with one going missing, and one being ruined by weather, we had over 500 signatures in two weeks!

After having previously questioned everyone involved that we could find, researching similar sized islands with similar issues, and spitballing in these circles that formed at every adoption event, the new plan was get a vet. We needed a high-volume spray and neuter veterinarian that was government-funded so that local people could have their animals fixed at little to no cost. This high-volume vet could fix all of our strays, even if we don't have room to shelter them. If the funding was available, we could manage a bit of treatment along the way. As far as the procedures of spay and neuter goes, after speaking with many vets in person, it only use about $3 to $15 in materials.

At this point, I headed to my long-awaited meeting at the Saipan Mayor's Office. I met with Mayor Apatang's special assistant, Henry Hofschneider, for an on-the-record interview. It was, to say the least, disappointing. He did tell me that the mayor's office "asked for $100,000 for a vet" but there weren't any in the budget. But after he told me that the mayor's office felt the solutions were to "educate the public" about not leaving out scraps and leashing their pets, I felt that he was missing the point.

So, again, I headed back to the Legislature. After expressing my concerns to Rep. Propst, he said that he could help! In order to make sure that the funding was going to be there when we need it, he and a small team could use some "unappropriated funds" and maybe get enough for two years. We would, however, need a vet to make this all work.

I knew that the mayor's office had trouble with the $100,000 annual budget, and that didn't necessarily mean that this vet would be able to handle high-volume spay/neuter or had any enough funds for supplies. So my goal was to find the right vet, somewhere on earth, for half that. That would leave plenty of money for supplies if the request passed, and wiggle room if it didn't. This island isn't a hard sell. I figured there must be plenty of veterinarians out there that have already made a lot of money and want to live somewhere amazing. I got more emails and messages from the first week of various online postings than I could reply to in three months!

I headed back to the Legislature to speak with Senate President Arnold Palacios. I decided to play it smart and led with the petition signatures. After running him through our story and a couple great stories from him, he said that he would be happy to do all he can to support this funding. So that was it. A couple months have passed and we've found two great veterinarians that would love to move here and are willing to take a significant pay cut to $50,000. They both have a lot of experience in high volume spay and neuter, and both are passionate about helping. Virginia Cunningham has a Kindergartener and her husband works in healthcare; she can start December. Amber Hinson has worked for long extents around the globe and can start October. Also Dr. Portalatin and Dr. Johnson have already booked small vacations to volunteer and consider the island.

An estimated 27.4 puppies and kittens are born in the jungles and backstreets of Saipan every single day. Two-thirds die of starvation and disease. We would need to put down nine a day to maintain current populations. Let's beat this problem at its source, save lives, and improve the island.

The hard part is done. The only thing left to do is to call and remind our elected officials.

Lucas Gillies
Chalan Kanoa Saipan

LANGUAGE

From Page 10

A positive note of confidence inserted here: I can just about guarantee that a solid one-year course in Chinese could result in a non-native speaker of Chinese reading a script written in "pinyin" (Chinese written using the English alphabet) to a group of tourists at a public place, at the beach, on a bus, or at the airport and they would be understood.

I hope this missive engenders some discussion that bears fruit and brings foreign language instruction into all CNMI PSS schools.

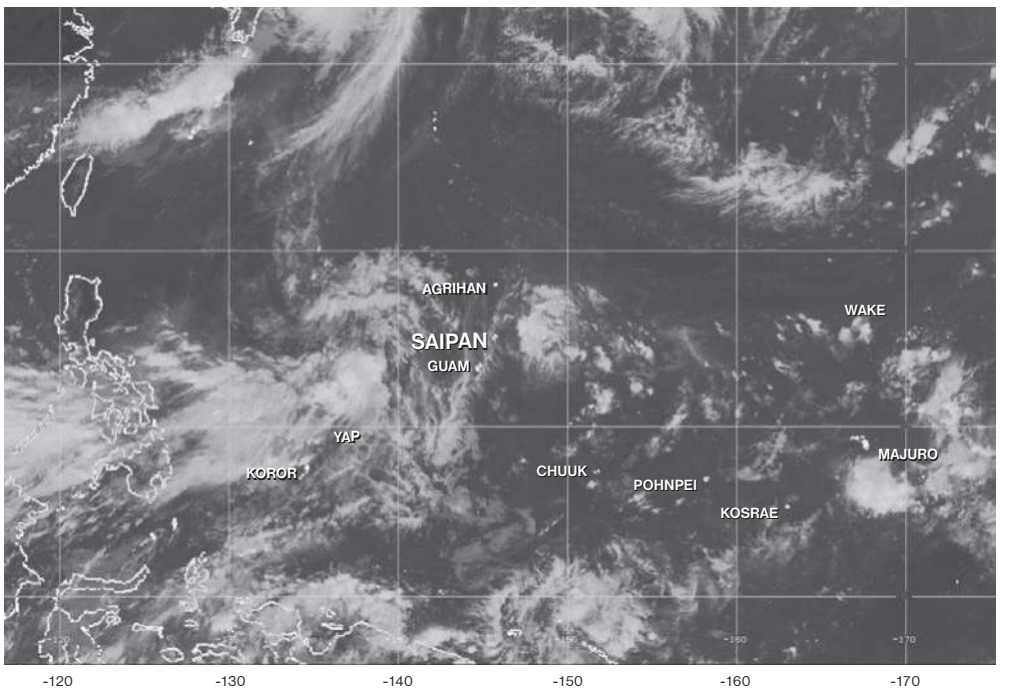
Xie xie, *domo arigato, kom sahamnida, salamat po, muchos gracias, habeo tibi gratiam.* Thank you.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼77°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:00 AM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Light and variable wind and a partly cloudy sky prevail across the Marianas early this morning. There are a few showers evident on radar and a larger area northeast of Saipan. Combined seas are between 4 and 6 feet at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	84° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	61° / 48°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	82° / 57°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°
London	Mostly Sunny	66° / 46°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	79° / 67°
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 77°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	61° / 39°
Miami	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°
New York	Thunderstorm	92° / 73°
Osaka	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
Paris	Rain	72° / 54°
Busan	Rain	75° / 70°
Rome	Sunny	84° / 64°
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	90° / 71°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	62° / 54°
Seoul	Rain	81° / 61°
Tokyo	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	94° / 76°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
03:05 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.80
10:36 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.23
5:47 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.82
11:07 PM	LOW TIDE	1.11

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:25 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:25 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	1:07 AM	2:24 PM	-
Friday	2:07 AM	3:24 PM	-
Saturday	3:09 AM	4:22 PM	-
Sunday	5:15 AM	6:08 PM	-
Monday	6:16 AM	6:56 PM	-

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Amazon is 2nd US company to reach $1T market value

NEW YORK (AP)—Amazon on Tuesday became the second publicly traded company to reach $1 trillion in market value, hot on the heels of iPhone maker Apple.

The milestone is another sign of Amazon's swift rise from an online bookseller to a behemoth that sells toilet paper, TVs and just about anything. In its two decades, Amazon has expanded far beyond online shopping and into health care, advertising and cloud computing.

Its growth has boosted the fortunes of its founder and CEO, Jeff Bezos. His 16 percent stake in Amazon is now worth more than $160 billion. Forbes magazine placed him at the top of its list of billionaires for the first time this year, surpassing Microsoft cofounder Bill Gates and investor Warren Buffett.

Amazon's stock has increased almost 600 percent in the last five years, including a more than 70 percent surge so far in 2018 alone. On Tuesday morning, the stock climbed enough to push the company's valuation pass the $1 trillion mark, although it dropped back slightly after that. The stock closed at $2,039.51 Tuesday, about $11 short of keeping its valuation above $1 trillion.

Apple topped the $1 trillion mark in early August. Saudi Arabia's national energy company, Aramco, is widely believed to be worth much more than either Amazon or Apple.

Amazon's growing power has made it a target of politicians. President Donald Trump has said the company should pay the U.S. Postal Service more in shipping costs. And U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders has frequently noted the disparity between what Amazon's warehouse workers make and Bezos' vast fortune. Amazon has remained publicly silent about Trump's criticism, but has called Sanders' comments "misleading."

AP
A Nasdaq employee monitors market activity Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018, in New York. Amazon became the second publicly traded company to be worth $1 trillion, hot on the heels of Apple.

Bezos started Amazon after leaving a hedge fund in 1994. He called Amazon the "Earth's biggest bookstore" at the time, but it quickly added more products and eventually opened up a marketplace where others could list and sell their goods.

Amazon has cemented customer loyalty through its Prime membership program, offering fast, free shipping as well as music and video streaming perks. In April, Bezos disclosed for the first time that Amazon had more than 100 million paying Prime members around the world.

Wall Street has become very enthusiastic about Amazon's businesses outside of retail. Amazon Web Services provides cloud computing services to companies and governments, and Amazon's advertising division makes billions by selling ads to companies that want their products to show up when shoppers search on the site.

Those profitable businesses have helped offset the high costs associated with running its online store. Amazon saw its quarterly profit soar past $2 billion for the first time earlier this year as the online shopping, cloud computing and advertising businesses all kept growing.

Amazon is also building its physical presence: Its purchase last year of the Whole Foods grocery chain gave it hundreds of stores at which to promote its gadgets and offer discounts tied to Prime memberships. It has opened more than a dozen brick-and-mortar bookstores, and has plans for more cashier-less Amazon Go convenience stores.

It's also been trying to have more control over how its packages are delivered. Under a program announced this summer, contractors around the country can launch businesses that deliver Amazon packages. The move gives Amazon more ways to ship its packages to shoppers without having to rely on UPS, FedEx and other delivery services.

Amazon's latest push has been in the health care industry. It has formed a venture with JPMorgan Chase and Berkshire Hathaway to figure out ways to attack rising health care costs for their U.S. employees and possibly for many more Americans. It also announced plans to buy the online pharmacy PillPack, but hasn't revealed what it plans to do with it.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Argentine seeks early release of funds from IMF

WASHINGTON (AP)—Argentina will have to wait at least until the second half of September to find out whether the International Monetary Fund will agree to the early release of a credit line under a $50 billion backup financing arrangement approved earlier this year, Economy Minister Nicolas Dujovne said Tuesday. Dujovne declined to say how much money he had requested during a meeting with IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde. "All this requires a formal procedure so it receives an agreement at the staff level, which could be taken before the board," Dujovne told reporters after the meeting, adding that he expects the IMF to vote on the request in the second half of the month. Lagarde said they made progress in the meeting. "Our discussions will now continue at a technical level and, as stated before, our common objective is to reach a rapid conclusion to present a proposal to the IMF Executive Board," she said in a statement. While the meeting between Dujovne and Lagarde was grabbing most of the headlines, the Argentine peso kept losing value. The U.S. dollar closed Tuesday at 39.50 pesos per unit compared to 38 the day before. The peso has devaluated around 53 percent so far this year.

Report: Chinese billionaire Liu accused of felony rape

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—A Minneapolis police report says the arrest of Chinese billionaire Liu Qiangdong, founder of the Beijing-based e-commerce site JD.com, was over a felony rape accusation. The report doesn't provide details of the alleged incident. No charges have been filed against the billionaire, also known as Richard Liu. Jail records show he was arrested Friday in Minneapolis. He was released Saturday. JD.com official Zhang Shuhan said Monday that Liu was back in China. In a statement Sunday, JD.com said Liu was falsely accused while in the U.S. on a business trip, and that police investigators found no misconduct. A spokeswoman for the University of Minnesota said Liu, who is enrolled as a student with the Carlson School of Management's doctor of business administration China program, was in Minneapolis to attend a residency from Aug. 26 to Sept. 1.

Facebook, Twitter defend efforts to stop election meddling

WASHINGTON (AP)—Facebook and Twitter executives plan to defend their companies in two congressional hearings, arguing they are aggressively trying to root out foreign actors who want to do the United States harm just weeks before the midterm elections.

Twitter's CEO will also face angry Republicans who claim the companies have shown evidence of bias against conservatives. In prepared testimony released ahead of a House hearing Wednesday afternoon, Jack Dorsey says his company does not use political ideology to make decisions.

Congress has sharply criticized the social media companies over the last year as it has become clear that they were at the forefront of Russia's interference in the 2016 elections and beyond. That scrutiny has led to additional criticism over the companies' respect for user privacy and whether conservatives are being censored — frustrations that are particularly heightened ahead of the midterms.

"The companies have made progress, the government has made progress, but the bad guys have made progress as well," said Virginia Sen. Mark Warner, the top Democrat on the Senate intelligence committee, which will hear from both companies in the morning on the subject of foreign interference. Warner has proposed a series of ways the companies could be regulated for the first time.

The afternoon hearing in the House Energy and Commerce Committee will feature only Dorsey in a hearing focused on bias and the platform's algorithms. Some Republicans, including President Donald Trump, have pushed the idea ahead of the elections that Twitter is "shadow banning" some in the GOP because of the ways search results have appeared. Twitter denies that is happening.

Missing from the conversation will be Google, which refused to make its top executive available for the Senate intelligence hearing. The panel invited Larry Page, the CEO of Google's parent company, Alphabet, but the company said it would send a lower-ranking executive instead. The committee rejected that offer, and is expected to have an empty chair at the hearing for Page.

Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr said Tuesday that Google doesn't "understand the problem" if it doesn't want to work with the government to find solutions.

The back-and-forth with Google is the latest in a year's worth of attempts by Congress to force the companies to focus more sharply on the Russian interference issue. While Burr says he believes Facebook and Twitter do understand the problem, it took both companies several months last year to acknowledge they had been manipulated.

It also underscores how difficult the problem may be to solve. While the companies have made many changes around their policies and have caught and banned hordes of malicious accounts over the past year, their business models—free services that rely on attracting as many users as possible for as long as possible and finding out as much about them as possible — remain the same. Some critics have charged that unless they change this, they will continue to contend with bad actors taking advantage of their systems.

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LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
25,952.48	2,896.72	8,091.25
−12.34	−4.80	-18.29
−.048%	−0.17%	−0.23%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3841	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8100	Russian Ruble	67.8851
British Pound	0.7679	Indian Rupee	70.8425	Singapore Dollar	1.3655
Canadian Dollar	1.2976	Japanese Yen	110.5061	South Korean Won	1095.31
Chinese Yuan	6.7195	Malaysian Ringgit	4.0886	Swiss Franc	0.9637
Euro	0.8578	New Zealand Dollar	1.5029	Taiwan Dollar	30.2107
		Philippine Peso	52.3842	Thailand Baht	31.2742

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Nation

Despite past reforms, Native women face high rates of crime

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—For generations, Native American women have been victimized at astonishing rates, with federal figures showing that more than half have encountered sexual and domestic violence at some point during their lives — even amid a wave of efforts aimed at reducing such crimes.

The statistics reinforce arguments that the criminal justice system still fails to protect these women, and its shortcomings again are being exposed as another crisis gains attention: the disappearances of hundreds of Native American and Alaska Native women and girls from across the United States.

In the past decade, Congress responded to the problem of violence against Native American women with intensely debated legislation seeking to close legal loopholes, improve data collection and increase funding for training of tribal police. Those efforts have proven severely limited, however, prompting advocates to again push for more reforms.

"I think the reason that Native women may go missing at higher rates than other groups of people is very similar to the reason that they are at higher risk for domestic violence and sexual assault," said Sarah Deer, a University of Kansas professor, member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and author of a book on sexual violence in Indian Country. "The legal system is simply not functioning properly (to prevent) these types of things from happening."

At the end of 2017, the FBI's National Crime Information Center database had 633 open missing person cases for Native American women, who comprise 0.4 percent of the U.S. population but 0.7 percent of cases in the figures obtained by The Associated Press. African-American women were the only other group to be overrepresented in the caseload compared to their proportion of the population. The numbers are considered an undercount, however, given reporting is largely voluntary and some tribes only gained full access to the database under a Justice Department program launched in 2015.

Just 47 of the nation's more than 570 federally recognized tribes are part of DOJ's Tribal Access Program , which allows them to exchange data with national crime information systems for civil and criminal purposes. The Justice Department has gradually allocated funding to bring more tribes on board, and up to 25 are expected to join the program in the next year, officials said. Other tribes have limited access via state, federal or local law enforcement agencies.

"We think that's an important way of ensuring that tribes have the ability to directly deal with the issues on the ground that their families and their community are dealing with," said Tracy Toulou, head of the Justice Department's Office of Tribal Justice.

That program was one of many crime-fighting measures in the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 , which gave tribes authority to hand down longer sentences while mandating that federal officials do more to train tribal police on evidence collection and provide an annual report on Indian Country crime statistics.

AP

A woman performs a traditional Native American dance during the North American Indian Days celebration on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning, Mont., Friday, July 13, 2018.

Election security bill backers say delay helps Russia

WASHINGTON (AP)—Just two months before the midterm elections, bipartisan legislation to try to prevent foreign hacking into U.S. election systems is stalled in Congress as the White House and some Republicans worry it could exert too much federal control over the states.

Supporters of the bill say the delay could embolden Russia, which targeted election infrastructure in at least 21 states in 2016.

A committee vote on the bipartisan bill was abruptly canceled two weeks ago after objections from some Republican senators and the states they represent. And Republicans and Democrats who are supporting the bill say they don't know when — or if — it will be taken up again in the few remaining weeks Congress is in session before the midterms.

The delay has some concerned that Congress could punt on the only piece of legislation that is designed to fix what went wrong in 2016 — and to prevent Russia or other countries from trying again. There is no evidence that the Russian targeting of state election systems was successful or changed any votes, but lawmakers, intelligence officials and elections experts say that they believe Russia will return in 2018 and beyond with more sophisticated tools.

It also demonstrates Congress' struggle to develop a cohesive response to the Russian interference — especially as President Donald Trump has at times questioned whether it even happened.

The White House issued a lukewarm statement on the election security bill, neither endorsing nor opposing it but saying that "if Congress should choose to continue to pursue" the legislation they want to ensure that it does not duplicate ongoing federal efforts to help states or violate the principles of federalism.

"We cannot support legislation with inappropriate mandates or that moves power or funding from the states to Washington for the planning and operation of elections," said White House spokeswoman Lindsay Walters.

The bill was negotiated over the last year by Republican Sen. James Lankford of Oklahoma and Democratic Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota. Lankford says the White House did not block the bill, but that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell "had concerns" after hearing from states and other interests that suddenly realized the bill was moving forward. Klobuchar similarly said concerns came from "leadership on the Republican side."

McConnell's office would not comment on his involvement with the bill, or whether he heard from states or other groups about concerns.

Klobuchar, the top Democrat on the House Rules and Administration Committee, the panel that canceled the vote, says Congress is sending the wrong message to Russia by delaying the bill.

By passing the legislation, "you send a message that we are beefing up going forward, as opposed to standing down, which is what this looks like," Klobuchar said of the delay.

Maine Sen. Angus King said he thought there had been a bipartisan desire to fix what went wrong in 2016.

"It is frustrating because, to me, this is low-hanging fruit," said King, an Independent who sits on both the Senate intelligence committee and the Rules Committee. The intelligence panel has been investigating Russia's intervention for almost two years, and improving election security has been one of its top priorities.

GOP hit Trump for criticizing Justice Department

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump encountered bipartisan criticism on Tuesday for complaining that his own Justice Department's indictments against two Republican congressmen were endangering the GOP's midterm election prospects, with one Republican senator saying of Trump's attack, "We can't normalize that."

Trump's tweet was his latest effort to press the government's chief law enforcement agency to react to his personal and political views. Investigators are not supposed to take into account the political affiliations of the people they investigate, and the department has a history of prosecuting lawmakers of both major political parties no matter which controls the White House.

"It was over and above what he's done before," Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., told reporters. "To say the Justice Department ought to punish his enemies and protect his friends goes beyond what any president in my memory has ever said, and that we can't normalize that."

Flake has repeatedly criticized Trump for his performance as president and is not seeking re-election this fall.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said in North Korea people might see a leader saying "who you prosecute."

"No president of the United States, Republican or Democrat, has ever, ever crossed the line and told people, 'Don't prosecute Republicans. Only prosecute Democrats,'" Leahy said.

Trump tweeted on Monday, "Obama era investigations, of two very popular Republican Congressmen were brought to a well publicized charge, just ahead of the Mid-Terms, by the Jeff Sessions Justice Department. Two easy wins now in doubt because there is not enough time. Good job Jeff....."

Trump did not name the Republican congressmen, but he apparently was referring to the first two Republicans to endorse him in the GOP presidential primaries. Both were indicted on separate charges last month: Rep. Duncan Hunter of California on charges that included spending campaign funds for personal expenses and Rep. Chris Collins of New York on insider-trading charges. Both have proclaimed their innocence.

AshLee Strong, a spokeswoman for House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., said the Justice Department "should always remain apolitical, and the speaker has demonstrated he takes these charges seriously." Ryan has removed Collins and Hunter from their committee assignments.

The Hunter investigation began in June 2016, according to the indictment.

The indictment into Collins lays out behavior from 2017. He also was under investigation by congressional ethics officials.

Asia

Strong typhoon slams western Japan; 8 dead, airport flooded

TOKYO (AP)—A powerful typhoon slammed into western Japan on Tuesday, inundating the region's main international airport and blowing a tanker into a bridge, disrupting land and air travel and leaving thousands stranded. At least eight people died and scores were injured.

Jebi, reportedly the strongest typhoon to make landfall in Japan since 1993, headed north across the main island of Honshu toward the Sea of Japan. It was off the northern coast of Fukui on Tuesday evening with sustained winds of 126 kilometers per hour (78 miles per hour) and gusts up to 180 kph (110 mph), the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

More than 700 flights were canceled, according to Japanese media tallies. High-speed bullet train service was suspended from Tokyo west to Hiroshima, though service partially resumed later Tuesday when the typhoon left the region.

More than 1.6 million households remained without power in Osaka, Kyoto and four nearby prefectures late Tuesday, according to Kansai Electric Power Co.

High seas poured into Kansai International Airport, built on artificial islands in Osaka Bay, flooding one of its two runways, cargo storage and other facilities, and forcing it to shut down, said the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. A passenger was slightly injured by shards from a window shattered by the storm.

A 2,591-ton tanker that was mooring slammed into the side of a bridge connecting the airport to the mainland, damaging the bridge and making it unusable, leaving about 3,000 passengers stranded at the airport, transport ministry official Mitsuo Nakao said.

The tanker was also damaged, but its 11 crewmembers were not injured and remained on board, according to the coast guard.

NHK public television showed passengers sitting or lying on the floor in the airport terminal in the dark without air conditioning.

A man in his 70s died apparently after being blown to the ground from his apartment in Osaka prefecture. Police said five others died elsewhere in the prefecture after being hit by flying objects or falling from their apartments. In nearby Shiga prefecture, a 71-year-old man died when a storage building collapsed on him, and a man in his 70s died after falling from a roof in Mie, officials said.

The Fire and Disaster Management Agency said 150 people were injured.

Daihatsu Motor Co. stopped production at its Kyoto and Osaka factories, while Panasonic halted work at its air conditioning and refrigerator factory in Shiga. Major beverage maker Kirin Co. suspended production at its brewery in Kobe, according to Kyodo News agency.

Elsewhere in Osaka, the Universal Studios Japan theme park and U.S. Consulate were both closed. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe canceled a scheduled trip to Kyushu, Japan's southernmost main island, to oversee the government's response to the typhoon, said Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga.

In nearby Nishinomiya in Hyogo prefecture, about 100 cars at a seaside dealership were in flames after their electrical systems were shorted out by sea water, fire officials and news reports said.

The typhoon first made landfall on Japan's southwestern island of Shikoku and then again near Kobe on Honshu. Television footage showed sea water overflowing onto low-lying areas.

Tokyo escaped relatively unscathed, with some intermittent squalls.

AP

Kansai International Airport is partly inundated following a powerful typhoon in Izumisano, Osaka prefecture, western Japan, Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Pence calls on Myanmar to free 2 Reuters reporters

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—U.S. Vice President Mike Pence called on Myanmar to immediately release two journalists who were sentenced to seven years' imprisonment on charges of possessing state secrets in connection with their reporting on massacres against Rohingya Muslims. Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo from the Reuters news agency were sentenced Monday in proceedings that were widely decried as unfair. They had reported about the army's brutal counterinsurgency campaign that drove 700,000 Rohingya to flee to Bangladesh. The subject is sensitive in Myanmar because of worldwide condemnation of the military's human rights abuses, which it denies. Pence on Tuesday tweeted the two should be "— not imprisoned — for their work exposing human rights violations & mass killings." "Freedom of religion & freedom of the press are essential to a strong democracy," he wrote in back-to-back tweets. "We call on the Gov't of Burma to reverse this ruling & release them immediately." U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres also urged Myanmar authorities to review their decision, noting with concern the conviction and sentencing of the two.

Cambodia's new one-party legislature begins session

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodia's King Norodom Sihamoni has presided over the opening of the new session of the National Assembly, whose 125 seats are filled by members of a single party following an election widely decried as unfair. The lawmakers from the Cambodian People's Party are expected to confirm Hun Sen, who has held power for three decades, for another five-year term as prime minister on Thursday. His party won a landslide victory in the July 29 general election. The only credible opposition force, the Cambodia National Rescue Party, was disbanded last year by the courts in a move seen as politically motivated. The 19 other parties that contested the election were seen as either having trivial support or being promoted by the ruling party to foster the illusion of democratic choice.

PH senator defies Duterte's arrest order in standoff

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine senator who is President Rodrigo Duterte's fiercest critic in Congress remained holed up in the Senate on Wednesday to avoid what he considers an illegal arrest after Duterte voided his amnesty for his role as a rebel military officer.

Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV told reporters after staying overnight in the Senate that his lawyers would file a petition to the Supreme Court to challenge the legality of Duterte's proclamation voiding his amnesty for taking part in failed coup attempts years ago.

Duterte also ordered the Department of Justice and the military to pursue criminal and administrative complaints against Trillanes, a former navy officer.

Trillanes told the police and military not to follow Duterte's "illegal order" for him to be arrested without a court warrant, saying his rebellion and coup cases were dismissed in 2011 without being questioned by the government after he availed of an amnesty offered by Duterte's predecessor.

Addressing military and police officers who may be pressured to enforce Duterte's order out of fear, Trillanes said "Duterte will not be there for long, please do not do anything illegal or unconstitutional."

Duterte's order, which was made public Tuesday while he was on a trip to Israel, has sparked a legal debate. Some legal experts have questioned whether Duterte can invalidate a rebel amnesty declared by a previous president and approved by legislators.

Justice Secretary Menardo Guevarra told a news conference Tuesday that Duterte voided Trillanes' amnesty because the senator had failed to comply with all of its requirements, including a clear admission of his involvement in past coup attempts.

Trillanes cannot invoke his congressional immunity from arrest because the crimes he allegedly committed, including rebellion, were serious and punishable by life imprisonment, Guevarra said.

During a televised Senate session, however, Trillanes showed video footage and news reports denying Duterte's basis for voiding his amnesty. The news reports showed an image of his amnesty application, which officials said they could not find, and carried remarks by Trillanes acknowledging his participation in the uprisings.

"That presidential declaration should alarm the justices of the Supreme Court because Duterte there exercises executive, legislative and judicial powers," Trillanes said. "If they affirm the presidential declaration, the president can issue warrants of arrest."

Despite questions on Duterte's move, military spokesman Col. Edgard Arevalo said Trillanes "will be reverted to his status as active military personnel subject to military law and military discipline." A military court may be reconstituted to try Trillanes after his amnesty was voided, Arevalo told reporters.

The 47-year-old former navy officer was detained for several years before his election to the Senate for involvement in three military uprisings from 2003 to 2007 to protest government corruption.

Duterte has openly expressed anger against Trillanes, who has accused him of large-scale corruption and involvement in illegal drugs. The volatile president has repeatedly denied the allegations.

Aside from Trillanes, another opposition senator, Leila de Lima, has been detained after being accused by Duterte of involvement in illegal drugs, a crime she has vehemently denied. A former human rights commission chief, de Lima investigated Duterte's alleged role in extrajudicial killings in a yearslong anti-drug crackdown when he served as mayor of southern Davao city for years.

Another Duterte critic, Maria Lourdes Sereno, was ousted by fellow justices from the Supreme Court in May after the government alleged that her appointment by Duterte's predecessor was legally flawed and petitioned for her removal.

World

Researchers hope some objects survived Brazil museum fire

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Researchers held out hope that a famed skull and other valuable objects might somehow be recovered from the ashes of a massive blaze that tore through Brazil's National Museum after firefighters found bone fragments from the collection.

Officials have said as much as 90 percent of Latin America's largest collection of treasures might have been lost in a fire that broke out Sunday. Aerial photos of the main building showed only heaps of rubble and ashes in the parts of the building where the roof collapsed.

The firefighters "found fragments of bones in a room where the museum kept many items, including skulls," Cristiana Serejo, the museum's vice director, said Tuesday. "We still have to collect them and take them to the lab to know exactly what they are."

In its collection of about 20 million items, one of the most prized possessions is a skull called Luzia, which is among the oldest fossils ever found in the Americas.

Despite the evident loss, Serejo told journalists Tuesday that staff members were "reasonably optimistic about finding some more items inside."

Parts of the collection were saved when a professor rushed into the fire, and parts were held in other buildings—though some of those were also at risk. For instance, the electricity went out in an annex on the site, causing some frozen specimens to begin to rot.

Paulo Buckup, a professor of zoology at the museum, recounted Tuesday how he and a few other people pulled out mollusks and marine specimens as the fire gathered steam, going into and out of the building several times until it became too dangerous. He said the group tried to identify in the dark the most irreplaceable objects, but said they only saved a "minuscule portion of the heritage that was lost."

Many have already said that regardless of what is salvaged, the loss will be immeasurable. Marina Silva, a candidate for president in upcoming elections, called it a "lobotomy of Brazilian history."

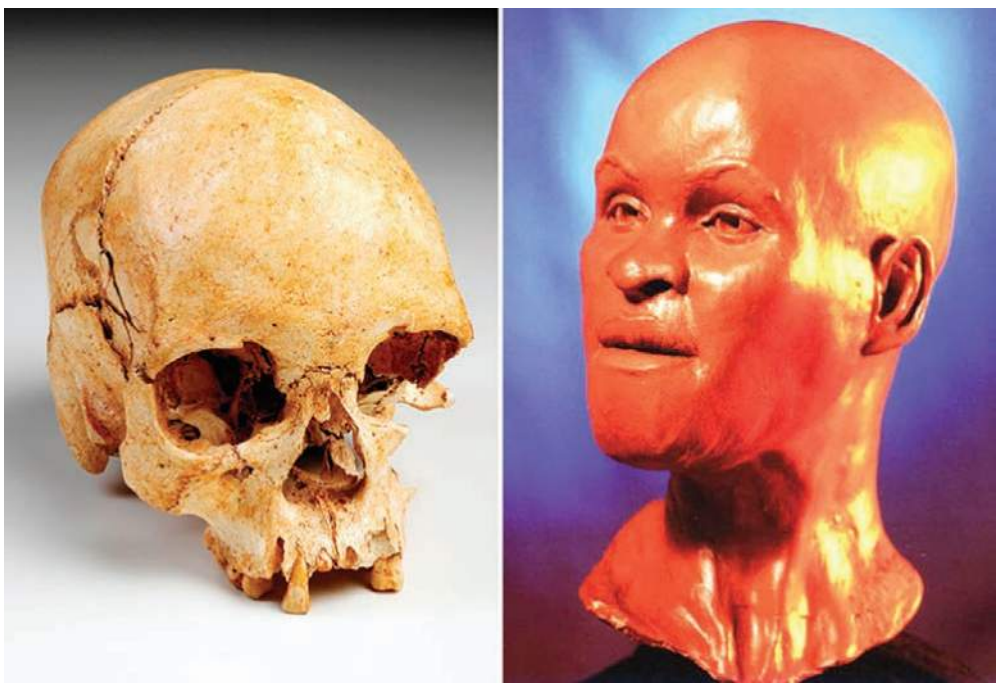
The Globo newspaper wrote in an editorial published Tuesday: "The size of the catastrophe is vast: It struck the national memory, through the loss of the important historical collection; it affected the sciences, interrupting research; and it represents a cultural loss impossible to quantify. We only know that it is enormous."

With the cause still under investigation, the disaster has led to a series of recriminations amid accusations that successive governments haven't sufficiently funded the museum, and it has raised concerns that other institutions might be at risk. Officials have said it was well known that the building was vulnerable to fire and in need of extensive repair.

The national development bank announced Tuesday that it would make $6 million available for museums looking to upgrade their security or fire-prevention plans.

On Monday, government officials promised $2.4 million to the National Museum shore up its gutted building and vowed to rebuild the institution.

UNESCO, the U.N.'s cultural agency, has offered financial and technical assistance, and French and Egyptian officials also have offered help. The museum was home to Egyptian artifacts, and Egypt's ministries of foreign affairs and antiquities have expressed concern over the fate of those objects.



AP

This combination of two undated handout photos provided by Brazil's National Museum shows the skull of Luzia Woman, left, and a reconstruction of Luzia, right, at the National Museum of Brazil in Rio de Janeiro.

Israeli jets fly over Lebanon in rare daytime raid on Syria

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Israeli jets flying high over Lebanon struck at targets inside Syria on Tuesday, Syrian state media reported, in a rare daytime raid that killed at least one person.

Syria's SANA state news agency said the country's air defenses shot down five missiles, adding that one person was killed and 12 others were wounded.

It reported strikes on the Wadi Ayoun area in the western Hama province and on the town of Baniyas in the coastal Tartous province.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the jets targeted military installations belonging to Iran, a key ally of the Syrian government.

Lebanese residents in areas north of the capital, Beirut, reported hearing jets overhead before sunset.

Israel is believed to be behind a string of strikes targeting government and allied military installations in Syria, in order to disrupt weapons transfers between its archenemies Iran and the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah. The Israeli government rarely acknowledges the attacks, and such strikes usually take place late at night.

The Syrian government accused Israel of striking a weapons research facility in Masyaf, near Wadi Ayoun, in July. The attack killed a top military scientist.

An Israeli military official said Tuesday that Israel has struck over 200 Iranian targets in Syria over the past 18 months. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity under military guidelines, said the targets were connected to Iran's elite Al-Quds force and include air force components, support infrastructure, and weapons storage and manufacturing facilities.

The official said Tuesday's alleged airstrikes were not included in the tally. He would not confirm Israel was behind those strikes, and did not comment on them.

Major UK union backs calls for new Brexit referendum

LONDON (AP)—One of Britain's biggest trade unions on Tuesday joined calls for a new public vote on leaving the European Union, saying voters were misled during the 2016 referendum campaign.

The GMB union, which has more than 600,000 members, said "the promises that were made during the referendum campaign are simply not the reality we are facing."

In a video statement, GMB General Secretary Tim Roache says the union's members in manufacturing, retail and other sectors face uncertainty because the British government has yet to negotiate a deal with the EU.

The union says Britons voted to leave the EU, but they "did not vote for economic chaos or to put jobs and hard-won rights on the line," and voters should be able to accept or reject the final Brexit deal.

With less than seven months to go until Britain leaves the EU, the two sides have yet to strike a deal on divorce terms and future trade, and Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservative government remains split over how close a relationship to seek with the bloc.

May wants to keep the U.K. aligned to EU regulations in return for free trade in goods. But her plan has infuriated Conservative supporters of a clean-break Brexit, who say it would prevent the U.K. from striking new trade deals around the world.

EU leaders, meanwhile, say May's plan smacks of "cherry picking" benefits of membership in the bloc without the cost or responsibilities.

Britain and the EU had hoped to hammer out an agreement on divorce terms and the outlines of future trade by October so that it can be approved by individual EU countries before the U.K. leaves the bloc on March 29. Both sides now say that deadline may slip to November or later.

U.K. Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab insisted Tuesday that a deal was "within our sights."

Raab told lawmakers in the House of Commons that the two sides had "injected some additional pace and intensity into the negotiations as we reach the final phases."

But Labour Party Brexit spokesman Keir Starmer said the negotiations were "in serious trouble" and that the government had no strategy except "to plow on regardless."

In Loving Memory of

ENRIQUE AGUON SANTOS

We would like to inform our families, relatives and friends that ENRIQUE answered the call of HIS creator on Saturday, September 1, 2018 on Guam.

He is predeceased by his two children and his parents Enrique Agulto and Ignacia Mafnas Santos. His remains will arrive on Saipan on Friday, September 7th at 11:45 a.m. at Francisco C. Ada International Airport Commuter Terminal via Star Marianas and will proceed to Borja's Funeral Home.

On Monday, September 10th at 7:30 a.m. his remains will leave the funeral home and proceed to San Roque Church. Immediately upon arrival, Responso will be recited and followed by the Holy Rosary. Thereafter, is public viewing.

At 10:00 a.m. the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated and followed by his interment at San Roque Cemetery, his final and indefinite resting place.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase for your thoughts and prayers.

Vilma Lynn M. Santos, Children and Families

Environment

California bill restricting plastic straws goes to governor

By PATRICK MCGREEVY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

SACRAMENTO, Calif.— California is poised to become the first state to restrict the distribution of plastic straws at restaurants under a bill approved Thursday by lawmakers, capturing the attention of environmentalists nationwide who hope the idea, like many with origins in the Golden State, will spread across the nation.

The legislation, which would prohibit full-service, dine-in restaurants from offering plastic straws to customers unless they are requested, passed on a 45-20 vote by the Assembly and now goes to Gov. Jerry Brown for his signature.

Although the bill stops short of an outright ban, environmentalists say they expect it will again make the state — which represents the world's fifth-largest economy — a trendsetter.

Its approval is the latest of several actions by California to reduce plastic pollution. In 2014, Brown signed into law a ban on single-use plastic bags at food markets, liquor stores and pharmacies. Voters rejected an effort by the bag industry to repeal that law two years later. In 2015, California lawmakers voted to ban the sale of personal care products that contain plastic microbeads starting in 2020.

Ban backers including the bill's author, Democratic Assemblyman Ian Calderon, say oceans, rivers and other areas of the environment have been harmed by discarded plastic. Calderon noted that the California Coastal Commission has recorded roughly 835,000 straws and stirrers picked up between 1988 and 2014 during beach cleanups and other pollution reduction campaigns.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that Americans disposed of more than 33 million tons of plastic in 2014, most of which was not recycled. Technomic, a marketing analysis company that watches the food service industry, recently issued a study that estimated Americans use 172 million straws each day.

"Plastic pollution continues to pose a significant threat to our oceans, our waterways and our landfills," Calderon told his colleagues Thursday. "Reducing consumer demand for plastic straws can help decrease plastic pollution."

The measure drew opposition from Republican lawmakers, including Assemblyman Matthew Harper of Huntington Beach, who said restricting straws may add more plastic to the waste stream as businesses use strawless lids made of plastic, or paper straws that he said can come wrapped in plastic.

"This is a feel-good movement to ban straws that actually does little to clean up the environment," Harper said. "California needs to stop being the nanny state that … tells restaurants how to run their businesses."

Some environmentalists would like to see the state go further. Calderon's bill exempts fast-food or "quick-service" restaurants, where the bulk of plastic straws are provided. Blake Kopcho of the Arizona-based Center for Biological Diversity said the state should require all straws to be made of biodegradable material.

The bill was opposed in the Senate by Republicans, including Sen. Ted Gaines, who worried about the negative impact on businesses.

"I'm just questioning the need for the legislation, quite frankly," Gaines said during floor debate. "I think the market, given time, will come up with alternatives."

Brown generally supports environmental legislation but has not said how he will act on the straw bill.

The measure would require full-service restaurants that primarily serve food to offer plastic straws only to customers who request them. It allows restaurants to offer paper or metal alternatives, and permits customers to bring their own plastic straws to the restaurants.

Calderon said plastic waste is harmful to marine animals, contaminates the human food supply and can lead to contamination of drinking water.

One study by the University of California, Davis researchers found that 25 percent of fish from markets in California and Indonesia contained plastic debris, Calderon said.

"It's critical that we reduce the negative effects of plastic pollution," the legislator said. "By removing the default behavior of providing straws with every drink, consumers have an opportunity to make a deliberate, small change that will lessen the harmful impacts of single-use plastic straws in our environment."

If Brown signs the bill, California would follow the lead of cities such as Malibu, Davis, Alameda, Carmel, San Luis Obispo, Manhattan Beach, Oakland and Berkeley that adopted policies either regulating or banning plastic straws.

Politically powerful groups that traditionally challenge new state regulations on businesses have refrained from opposing the bill, removing obstacles to its movement through the Legislature. Two of the most prominent, the California Restaurant Association and the California Chamber of Commerce, have remained on the sidelines.

"We haven't taken a position because our members do not consider this a mandate," said Denise Davis, a vice president for the chamber.

Even the Plastics Industry Association, which has voiced concerns about similar proposals in the past, is not fighting Calderon's bill.

"While we would prefer to work with policymakers to enact more comprehensive solutions to the challenges facing waste management and recycling, we do not oppose straws-upon-request legislation as long as it allows customers to choose a plastic straw if they want or need one," the group said this week in a written statement.

A legislative analysis hints at why there may be a lack of opposition, except from a few local chambers of commerce: The first and second violations would result only in warnings, while offenders could face fines of $25 a day for subsequent violations.

The bill, with its minimal penalties, might not achieve a sizable reduction in the number of plastic straws in California — in part because of its exclusion of fast-food restaurants, according to a bill analysis from legislative staff.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE
Dilwei Agnes Skilang Sablan
Born January 21, 1930, passed away in the early morning of September 2nd, 2018 at the age of 88 at her daughter's home in Saipan.
In her heavenly home Agnes joins her husband Juan Atalig Sablan; sons Henry, Gerald Victor, Tao and Jeffrey.
Agnes is survived by her children - Mike & Violy (Stephen, Zachary and Adam); Virginia & Andy (Matthew and Kaela), Cathy (K.Cyji/JJ, Charles Pablo and Jose); Children of Henry; Children of Gerald Victor; Children of Tao; Ninos & Monica; Willy (Eric & Pamela); family-brother Ephraim & Joyce. Her siblings Benjamin & †Humie, Suki & Damiana, Bill & Julie.
Daily rosary is held at St. Jude Church at 7:00pm - September 3rd to September 9th, 2018.
Mass of Christian Burial will be on Monday, September 10th, 2018 at Mt. Carmel Cathedral.
10:00am Responso and Holy Rosary
10:30am Mass and Burial at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery
Respecting Agnes' wish, there will be no public viewing.
Mesulang, Si Yu'us Maase and Thank You for your prayers, intimate condolences and taking time to grieve with us.
Mike, Virg, Cathy, Ninos, Willy, Ephraim and Agnes' grand & great-grand children

Life & Style

Book puts White House back in damage-control mode

WASHINGTON (AP)—An incendiary tell-all book by a reporter who helped bring down President Richard Nixon set off a firestorm in the White House on Tuesday, with its descriptions of current and former aides calling President Donald Trump an "idiot" and a "liar," disparaging his judgment and claiming they plucked papers off his desk to prevent him from withdrawing from a pair of trade agreements.

The book by Washington Post journalist Bob Woodward is the latest to throw the Trump administration into damage-control mode with explosive anecdotes and concerns about the commander in chief. The Associated Press obtained a copy of "Fear: Trump in the White House" on Tuesday, a week before its official release.

Trump decried the quotes and stories in the book on Twitter as "frauds, a con on the public," adding that Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and chief of staff John Kelly had denied uttering quoted criticisms of the president in the book.

And he denied accounts in the book that senior aides snatched sensitive documents off his desk to keep him from making impulsive decisions. He said in an interview with The Daily Caller, "There was nobody taking anything from me."

Later Tuesday, Trump was back on Twitter denying the book's claim that he had called Attorney General Jeff Sessions "mentally retarded" and "a dumb southerner."

Trump insisted he "never used those terms on anyone, including Jeff," adding that "being a southerner is a GREAT thing." Sessions has been a target of the president's wrath since recusing himself from the Russia investigation.

The publication of Woodward's book has been anticipated for weeks, and current and former White House officials estimate that nearly all their colleagues cooperated with the famed Watergate journalist. The White House, in a statement from press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders, dismissed the book as "nothing more than fabricated stories, many by former disgruntled employees, told to make the President look bad."

Woodward

Woodward did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The book quotes Kelly as having doubts about Trump's mental faculties, declaring during one meeting, "We're in Crazytown." It also says he called Trump an "idiot," an account Kelly denied Tuesday.

The book says Trump's former lawyer in the Russia probe, John Dowd, doubted the president's ability to avoid perjuring himself should he be interviewed in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian election interference and potential coordination with Trump's campaign. Dowd, who stepped down in January, resigned after the mock interview, the book says.

"Don't testify. It's either that or an orange jumpsuit," Dowd is quoted telling the president.

Dowd, in a statement Tuesday, said "no so-called 'practice session' or 're-enactment'" took place and denied saying Trump was likely to end up in an orange jumpsuit.

Mattis is quoted explaining to Trump why the U.S. maintains troops on the Korean Peninsula to monitor North Korea's missile activities. "We're doing this in order to prevent World War III," Mattis said, according to the book.

The book recounts that Mattis told "close associates that the president acted like—and had the understanding of—'a fifth- or sixth-grader.'"

Mattis said in a statement, "The contemptuous words about the President attributed to me in Woodward's book were never uttered by me or in my presence."

A Pentagon spokesman, Col. Rob Manning, said Mattis was never interviewed by Woodward.

"Mr. Woodward never discussed or verified the alleged quotes included in his book with Secretary Mattis" or anyone within the Defense Department, Manning said.

Woodward reported that after Syria's Bashar Assad launched a chemical weapons attack on civilians in April 2017, Trump called Mattis and said he wanted the Syrian leader taken out, saying: "Kill him! Let's go in." Mattis assured Trump he would get right on it but then told a senior aide they'd do nothing of the kind, Woodward wrote. National security advisers instead developed options for the airstrike that Trump ultimately ordered.

U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley denied Tuesday that Trump had ever planned to assassinate Assad. She told reporters at U.N. headquarters that she had been privy to conversations about the Syrian chemical weapons attacks, "and I have not once ever heard the president talk about assassinating Assad."

She said people should take what is written in books about the president with "a grain of salt."

Woodward also claims that Gary Cohn, the former director of the National Economic Council, boasted of removing papers from the president's desk to prevent Trump from signing them into law, including efforts to withdraw from the North American Free Trade Agreement and from a deal with South Korea.

Sting operation recovered Dorothy's stolen ruby slippers

BROOKLYN CENTER, Minn. (AP)—A pair of ruby slippers used in "The Wizard of Oz" and later stolen from a Minnesota museum were recovered in a sting operation after a man approached the shoes' insurer and said he could help get them back, the FBI said Tuesday.

The slippers were on loan to the Judy Garland Museum in the late actress' hometown of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, when they were taken in 2005 by someone who climbed through a window and broke into a small display case. The shoes were insured for $1 million.

The FBI said a man approached the insurer in summer 2017 and said he could help get them back. Grand Rapids police asked for the FBI's help and after a nearly year-long investigation, the slippers were recovered in July during a sting operation in Minneapolis.

The FBI said no one has yet been arrested or charged in the case, but they have "multiple suspects" and continue to investigate. As they unveiled the recovered slippers at a news conference Tuesday, they asked anyone with information about the theft to contact them.

"We're not done. We have a lot of work to do," Christopher Myers, the U.S. attorney for North Dakota, said.

Myers said he would handle any prosecution. The North Dakota link to the case wasn't evident and authorities declined to explain it.

AP

A pair of ruby slippers once worn by actress Judy Garland in the "The Wizard of Oz" are displayed at a news conference Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018, at the FBI office in Brooklyn Center, Minn.

The slippers had been on loan to the Garland museum from Hollywood memorabilia collector Michael Shaw. Three other pairs that Garland wore in the movie are held by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Smithsonian and a private collector.

The stolen slippers' authenticity was verified by comparing them with the pair at the Smithsonian's Museum of American History in Washington.

The ruby slippers are key in the 1939 movie. After mysteriously landing in the colorful Land of Oz after a tornado hit her farm in Kansas, Garland's character, Dorothy, has to click the heels of her slippers three times and repeat "there's no place like home" to return.

Rhys Thomas, author of "The Ruby Slippers of Oz," called the slippers "the Holy Grail of Hollywood memorabilia."

"They are maybe the most iconic cinematic prop or costume in movie history, and in fact, in cultural history," Thomas said. "They are a cultural icon."

Thomas estimated that this particular pair could be worth between $2 million to $7 million. He said it's not clear in which scenes they were used, but he was "99 percent" sure that they appeared in the film.

Thomas said the slippers then went unseen for 30 years until Shaw, acting as a middleman, bought them for someone who intended to sell them to the late actress Debbie Reynolds, but Shaw ended up keeping them and often loaned them for exhibits.

Law enforcement offered a $250,000 reward early in the case, and a fan in Arizona offered another $1 million in 2015.

The shoes are made from about a dozen different materials, including wood pulp, silk thread, gelatin, plastic and glass. Most of the ruby color comes from sequins but the bows of the shoes contain red glass beads.

The genre-busting Wizard of Oz—presented in black and white, and color—was a box office smash and was nominated for multiple Academy Awards, with wins for Best Song and Best Original Score.

Garland, who was born Frances Gumm, lived in Grand Rapids, about 200 miles (320 kilometers) north of Minneapolis, until she was 4, when her family moved to Los Angeles. She died of a barbiturate overdose in 1969.

The Judy Garland Museum , which opened in 1975 in the house where she lived, says it has the world's largest collection of Garland and Wizard of Oz memorabilia.

Publisher to celebrate Salinger centennial

NEW YORK (AP)—With J.D. Salinger's centennial coming next year, the big news so far is that his publisher is planning to celebrate it.

Little, Brown and Company announced Tuesday that new editions of "The Catcher in the Rye" and his three other works of fiction—"Franny and Zooey," "Nine Stories" and "Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour: An Introduction"—would be released in November. Nationwide events will be announced later this year, Little, Brown said.

The anniversary editions will include paperbacks with new covers and a bound set of unjacketed hardcovers. Little, Brown did not mention any releases of books Salinger reportedly left unpublished at the time of his death in 2010.

"We're thrilled to be publishing these beautiful new editions to coincide with Salinger's centennial year," Little, Brown publisher Reagan Arthur said in a statement. "J.D. Salinger had a unique ability to connect with readers through a character's voice—readers have often said, upon encountering his fiction for the first time, that they felt as if it had been written just for them. We hope these reissued editions will help a new generation of readers discover the immense pleasures of reading his work."

According to Little, Brown, the New York Public Library will have an exhibition in October 2019, featuring "manuscripts, letters, books and artifacts from Salinger's archive."

Salinger readers may regret that no new work has been announced, but it's a surprise that his publisher will do anything.

In his lifetime, Salinger gave few interviews and had no use for anniversaries or reissues or anything that might attract publicity, such as allowing e-books or audio editions. Little had changed since his death.

"My father hated birthdays, holidays, and pretty much any planned or culturally mandated celebrations, and he'd certainly hate this centennial—but he loved writing and he loved his readers, and I hope his readers will be glad for an excuse to remember him in this way," Matt Salinger, the author's son, said in a statement.

"I would also love for more people to read his last two books, 'Franny and Zooey' and 'Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour: An Introduction,' for I hear his voice the clearest in these," Matt Salinger said. "He once said that he wrote his first two books with at least part of an eye on selling them, whereas he wrote the last two because he longed to READ them. I hope that over the course of the year more people will join him in loving to read these books, and will come to know his work even better."

Julia Louis-Dreyfus is thrilled about her 'Veep' return

NEW YORK (AP)—Julia Louis-Dreyfus is back at work on "Veep" and said it feels "fantastic."

The star of the HBO comedy series revealed last September that she had been diagnosed with breast cancer. The news came soon after her sixth consecutive Emmy win for the role of Selina Meyer.

As work began recently on the show's seventh and final season, Louis-Dreyfus told The Associated Press: "I feel good. I feel strong. I've got energy and, yeah, back to my old tricks. It feels like I never left."

The "Seinfeld" alum has signed on to her first cancer awareness initiative, helping Carolina Herrera designer Wes Gordon design a flower-adorned T-shirt as part of Saks Fifth Avenue's 20th year raising money through its Key to the Cure program.

The limited-edition shirt will sell for $35 at Saks stores Oct. 1-31, with 100 percent of proceeds passed to the AiRS Foundation, a nonprofit Louis-Dreyfus supports for its work in helping women with the costs of breast reconstruction after mastectomy.

Louis-Dreyfus

"Up to 70 percent of breast cancer survivors who have had a mastectomy are really unsure or unaware of their reconstruction options, and many of those women who desire to have surgery don't have sufficient insurance or other resources to cover it," Louis-Dreyfus said by phone on a recent location day for "Veep."

As a survivor, she said she's often asked to help out. This is the first time she has said yes.

"It's hard to say no but I've just had to be very careful about managing my time and conserving my energy, so you know I'm putting my whole self into Key to the Cure," Louis-Dreyfus said. "You can't spread yourself too thin. That's why I wanted to choose the organization wisely and carefully."

As this year's ambassador for the program, Louis-Dreyfus said she wanted a bold statement for the annual T-shirt. It features three poppies and the slogan: "We are fighters & we are fighting for a cure."

Over 20 years, Key to the Cure has donated nearly $40 million to cancer research and treatment organizations.

"It was a super-fun endeavor," Louis-Dreyfus said of the T-shirt design process. She has often worn Herrera designs on red carpets. The shirt features blooms in jewel-tone red and pink.

"I wanted it to have a sort of femininity and a powerful message at the same time because I believe the two can go hand in hand," she said. "I liked the idea of talking about fighting."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Prosecutors reject sex abuse cases involving Spacey, Seagal

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles prosecutors have cited the statute of limitations while saying they won't file sexual assault cases against actors Kevin Spacey and Steven Seagal involving incidents in the early 1990s. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office made no comments Tuesday on the merits of the accusations. The cases were reviewed by a task force established to evaluate sex abuse allegations in the entertainment industry in the wake of dozens of women accusing disgraced film mogul Harvey Weinstein and others of abuse. Representatives for Spacey and Seagal did not immediately return emails T seeking comment.

SAG-AFTRA Foundation to honor Harrison Ford, Lady Gaga

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Harrison Ford and Lady Gaga are being honored by the SAG-AFTRA Foundation with the Artists Inspiration Award for their contributions to humanitarian and philanthropic causes. The non-profit organization says Tuesday that the awards will be presented at its third annual Patron of the Artists Awards on Nov. 8 in Beverly Hills. Both Gaga and Ford are actively involved in a number of philanthropic and advocacy organizations. For over 25 years, Ford has been an advocate for the environmental nonprofit Conservation International where he serves as the vice chairman of the board of directors. Gaga started the Born This Way Foundation which focuses on empowering youth and mental health research. Previous honorees include Leonardo DiCaprio and Lionel Ritchie.

Ticket reseller sues Sheeran promoter in Germany for fraud

BERLIN (AP)—International ticket reseller Viagogo filed a suit Tuesday against superstar Ed Sheeran's promoter for fraud on allegations the company confiscated genuine tickets from concertgoers and forced them to purchase new tickets, the company said. Viagogo said its suit filed in Germany alleges Stuart Galbraith and his company, Britain-based Kilimanjaro Live Ltd., defrauded fans out of several million pounds (dollars) on Sheeran's recent 2017 tour. It alleges the promoter set up fake Viagogo booths at venues "luring fans into declaring that they were Viagogo customers. The promoter then confiscated their authentic tickets and forced fans to buy new ones." Kilimanjaro rejected the claim, telling The Associated Press in an email it will "defend against this action vigorously and looks forward to doing so in court." "The claims made today by Viagogo are ludicrous, laughable and most importantly totally false," Kilimanjaro said.

NBC's 'Law & Order' franchise adding new hate-crimes drama

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NBC's "Law & Order" franchise is adding what the network calls a "relevant" new series about hate crimes. The network said Tuesday that it's ordered 13 episodes of "Law & Order: Hate Crimes." The drama from "Law & Order" creator Dick Wolf is based on New York state's Hate Crimes Task Force. The fictional version of the task force will be introduced in the upcoming 20th season of sister program "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit." Wolf said in a statement that he wants to shine a light on the wide range of crime victims in big U.S. cities and show that justice can prevail. A debut date hasn't been announced for "Law & Order: Hate Crimes," created and produced by Wolf and Warren Leight.

'Cosby' actor thankful for support about grocery store job

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—An actor who was a regular on "The Cosby Show" said he's thankful for the support he has received since photos of him working at a grocery store showed up on news sites.

Geoffrey Owens said Tuesday on ABC's "Good Morning America" that he did feel some people were trying to job shame him. But he stressed that "every job is worthwhile and valuable," adding that what's important is the honor of the working person and the dignity of the work.

"There is no job that's better than another," he said. "It may pay better, it may have better benefits, it may look better on paper. But it's not better. Every job is worthwhile."

Owens played Elvin Tibideaux, the husband of Sondra, the eldest daughter of Bill Cosby's character on the TV show. Photos showed him working the register at a New Jersey Trader Joe's, "Geoffrey" on his name tag. He said he no longer works there due to the unwanted attention he received.

AP

This image released by ABC shows co-host Robin Roberts, left, with "The Cosby Show" actor Geoffrey Owens during an interview on "Good Morning America," Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018, in New York.

Owens said people had recognized him in the past and that it was never an issue, noting they were "very, very cool about it." The 57-year-old actor said he hasn't had an acting job that lasted more than 10 weeks since leaving "The Cosby Show," but has taught acting at Yale and worked other jobs related to entertainment.

"I wanted a job where I could have some flexibility" if auditions or other matters came up, Owen said. "I didn't advertise it, not because I was ashamed of it, but because I didn't want the acting community to think that I wasn't pursuing acting anymore."

Boy's treatment of animals causes alarm among family

DEAR ABBY: My 3-year-old grandson hurts animals. He's intelligent and articulate. He understands many concepts about all kinds of things. Frankly, I'm scared. It's because he is so intelligent and high-functioning. I feel he should have more empathy than he does.

He has been doing this off and on for the last couple of years. My daughter, my husband and I have been discouraging it the whole time. He gets timeouts, stern talks and toys taken away. It doesn't work. My daughter has started swatting his bottom or his leg hoping he will understand it is unacceptable. She isn't comfortable hitting him and neither am I. My grandson knows better. I know he does.

My daughter called me this afternoon, upset because he hurt their dog again. Must we get rid of these pets? No one wants to do that. When is it too much? How can we make it stop?

AGHAST IN ALABAMA

DEAR AGHAST: It is already "too much." Your grandson's behavior isn't normal. Because he seems unable to appropriately interact with these helpless animals, he shouldn't be allowed to be around them without constant supervision. For the dog's own safety, another home should be found for it before it's hurt again.

Your grandson may be acting out of anger, because he has been physically or sexually abused himself or has witnessed domestic violence. This is why it's extremely important he be seen by a licensed mental health professional, who can advise his parents—and you—about how this should be handled. Without intervention, the boy's behavior could escalate, and he could seriously injure another child.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 64-year-old woman; my sister is 68. A few months ago, she was shopping and saw a man who looked EXACTLY like our father. (Dad passed away in 2008.) A conversation ensued, and he subsequently came to visit her at her home. He's 69. She snapped a picture of him and sent it to me, and the resemblance is uncanny. He was born in the same state as our father, was adopted and never knew his birth parents. We never had a brother; it was always just the two of us and our parents. She wants me to meet him.

He's married and doesn't want to tell his family about us. I would be happy to meet him, brother or not, but I need to know the truth before getting involved. It would be too weird for me to just wonder. He seems reluctant to take the DNA test. My sister and I are in the AncestryDNA system already, so it would be easy for us all to confirm. What should I do?

GETTING INVOLVED

DEAR GETTING INVOLVED: Because this man doesn't want his family to know he may have siblings, is reluctant to take the test and you would prefer not to meet him unless you know his status, do nothing. The next move should be his.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

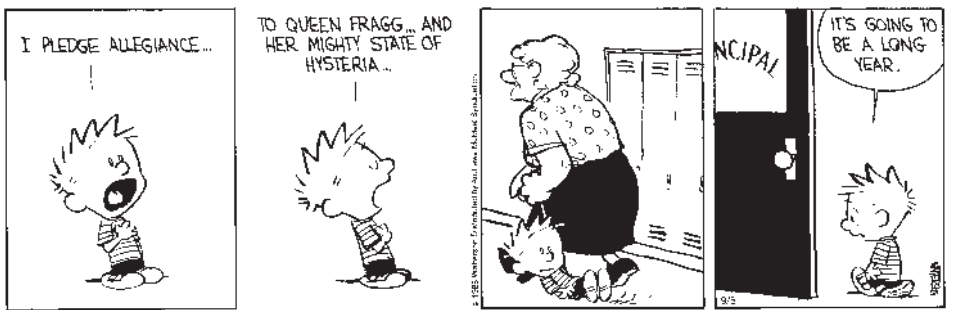
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

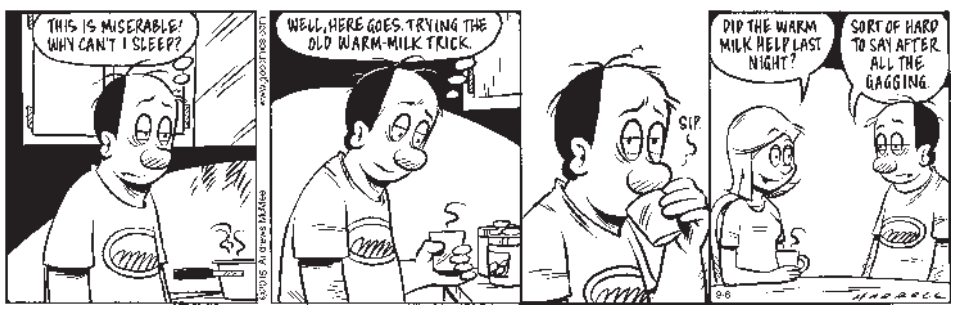


Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THIS IS MISERABLE! WHY CAN'T I SLEEP?
WELL, HERE GOES. TRYING THE OLD WARM-MILK TRICK.
SIP
DID THE WARM MILK HELP LAST NIGHT?
SORT OF HARD TO SAY AFTER ALL THE GAGGING.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

I PLEAD GUILTY, YOUR HONOR.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'RE NOT ON TRIAL.
YEP, BUT YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HOW I CLOGGED THE TOILET IN THE JURY ROOM.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Door-frame piece
5 Select from a group
9 Pop
12 Slugger Moises
13 Killer whale
14 Where Lux. is
15 Clarinets and flutes
17 One-time link
18 Forward
19 Fund
21 "Tiny Bubbles" singer Don
22 Mouse-like mammal
24 Bart's sister
27 Tax prep pro
28 Talk up
31 Bat wood
32 Squeak stopper
33 Music's Yoko
34 Incubator noise
36 White House nickname
37 Tosses in
38 Moscow money
40 Man's address
41 Lion's color
43 Coffee bar orders
47 Green prefix
48 Ground-hog
51 "I love," to Livy
52 Italian wine region
53 French 101 verb
54 Started
55 Bigfoot's cousin
56 Leftovers recipe

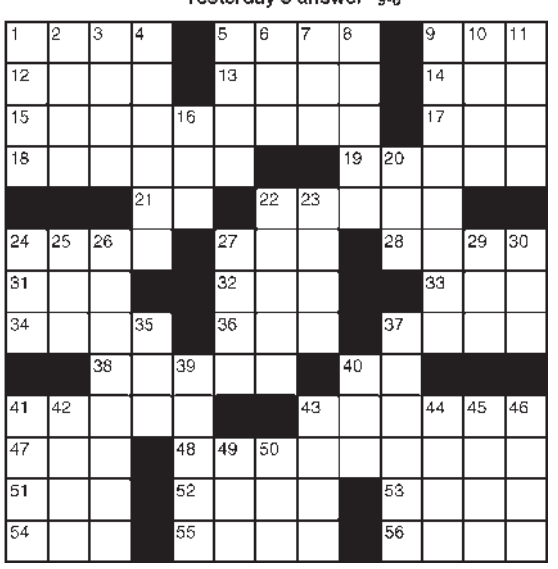
DOWN

1 Big fish story?
2 Skin soother
3 Earth orbiter
4 The En-lightened One
5 Mint product
6 Coffee vessel
7 PC screen type
8 Surgical beam
9 HBO Western drama
10 Car
11 Sketch
16 Romance
20 Court divider
22 Volleyball smash
23 Robust
24 Napkin's place
25 British verb ending
26 Robin Hood's forest
27 Spring
29 German conjunction
30 Lean- — (sheds)
35 Bit of wit
37 McDonald's emblem
39 Side road
40 Soft shoe, for short
41 Pond duck
42 Summit
43 1502, in Old Rome
44 Jabba the —
45 Farm fraction
46 Distort
49 Sugary suffix
50 Mel of baseball

Solution time: 24 mins.

F	I	S	H	■	L	O	B	■	B	U	S	
O	N	E	I	■	E	U	R	■	R	E	B	A
G	R	A	F	F	I	T	I	■	O	X	E	N
S	E	R	I	E	S	■	C	O	W	A	R	D
■	■	■	S	T	U	■	S	A	S	S	■	■
D	I	N	■	A	R	C	■	T	E	E	R	A
U	F	O	S	■	E	G	G	■	D	E	A	R
B	A	B	F	I	■	O	R	D	■	A	N	T
■	■	I	C	E	S	■	A	I	L	■	■	■
R	E	L	E	N	T	■	N	E	A	R	B	Y
A	R	I	D	■	I	N	D	U	C	T	E	E
C	I	T	E	■	R	I	M	■	K	E	E	N
K	E	Y	S	■	S	P	A	■	S	S	N	S

Yesterday's answer 9-6



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Idris Elba, 46; Rosie Perez, 54; Jane Curtin, 71; Swoosie Kurtz, 74.

Happy Birthday: Set your sights on bringing about changes that will help you eliminate the negativity in your life, as well as the people and situations that bring you down and hold you back. How you handle others will determine how well you do. Know what you want and use your intelligence, know-how and experience to ensure your success. Walk away from manipulative people. Your numbers are 2, 13, 24, 27, 33, 46, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Don't stagnate when you should be moving forward. Make personal changes that will help to settle your nerves and level out your emotional stress. Take care of unfinished business so you feel free to start something new. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* You'll crave change that will help you fill in any void you are feeling. Before you leap from one thing to another, consider the outcome as well as how you will affect others. Emotional situations will escalate. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Make personal changes that will bring you peace of mind. Don't rely on others or try to mold someone into being more like you. Offering freedom to those you love will ensure that you are granted the same in return. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* An emotional move will not help matters. Take a step back and reconsider your actions. Common sense, practicality and friendly persuasion will be the keys to getting what you want. An unusual opportunity will change your life. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Simplicity, consistency and moderation will be necessary if you want to avoid a setback. Don't promise the impossible or make changes that aren't carefully considered. Work hard and be a team player if you want to get ahead. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Take the plunge and do something that makes you happy. A change will do you good, and connecting with people you have worked with or enjoyed being around in the past will lead to opportunities and new beginnings. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Go over every little detail before you share your plans or put them into motion. Not everyone will accept the changes you want to make. Listen to the suggestions offered to avoid a costly mistake. Don't take criticism personally. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* As the day progresses, anger will mount. Be sure to have an outlet for your pent-up energy or you may do something that will disrupt a relationship with a friend or relative. Listen and be willing to make concessions. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Take care of your financial, legal and medical issues personally. You will not be represented the way you want if you let someone speak on your behalf. Play it safe and control the situation. Don't divulge passwords or private information. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Set high standards, and don't stop until you are happy with what transpires. Your drive and determination will help you get what you want. Personal and professional gains will turn out better than anticipated if you push to finish what you start. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Personal improvements are within reach if you are reasonable. An unexpected last-minute decision someone makes will catch you by surprise. Don't feel you have to compensate for what others do. Do your own thing and follow through with plans. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Put your enthusiasm to work and you'll drum up support that will help you reach your goals. Putting your plans in motion will be prosperous and open a door that has been closed in the past. A partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are logical, interesting and unique. You are resourceful and focused.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		4		9		6		
2		5		1				
						3	7	
			8		1			
1	8					7	2	
			2		4			
5	2							
				4		8		6
	3			2		5		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

1	8	6	7	4	3	2	9	5
4	3	9	5	8	2	6	1	7
2	5	7	1	6	9	4	3	8
7	1	4	2	9	5	3	8	6
5	6	2	3	1	8	7	4	9
3	9	8	4	7	6	1	5	2
8	2	5	6	3	1	9	7	4
9	7	1	8	2	4	5	6	3
6	4	3	9	5	7	8	2	1

Difficulty Lvl. ★★★ 9/06

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

FOR HEARTY APPETITES — Solution: 7 letters

E	A	L	L	I	F	L	U	F	F	T	P	U	O	S
S	M	A	Z	K	N	I	R	C	F	O	T	S	U	G
U	O	U	E	L	A	E	M	L	R	N	O	R	S	R
O	R	S	S	I	G	D	A	T	K	G	L	D	N	O
I	A	I	T	N	R	V	I	O	R	U	U	A	O	C
C	T	V	U	U	O	O	O	N	N	E	B	L	O	E
I	B	H	O	R	N	C	L	C	N	U	A	M	P	R
L	R	V	I	E	K	I	H	A	F	E	B	T	S	Y
E	E	V	A	R	C	S	E	F	C	O	R	E	M	V
D	A	C	O	I	S	A	E	T	E	L	Z	Z	U	G
I	K	F	H	S	I	T	A	A	O	S	U	O	N	N
G	F	D	E	E	F	I	G	S	T	R	T	O	C	I
E	A	N	G	D	W	S	E	T	G	S	P	I	H	T
S	S	N	A	C	K	F	R	E	C	I	P	E	V	A
T	T	E	E	W	S	Y	L	I	D	O	B	I	T	E

©2012 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 9/6

Aroma, Bite, Bodily, Breakfast, Buffet, Calorie, Chew, Combo, Consume, Cook, Crave, Delicious, Desire, Devour, Digest, Dinner, Eager, Eating, Eats, Feed, Festive, Flavor, Food, Fork, Fulfill, Grocery, Gulp, Gusto, Guzzle, Hunger, Lunch, Meal, Munch, Ooze, Portion, Protein, Recipe, Rink, Satisfy, Snack, Soup, Spoons, Sweet, Taste, Thirst, Tongue, Treat, Urge, Visual, Zest

Yesterday's Answer: What's Cooking

The NEW **Volume 54** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FRITZ PACIFIC

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) General Maintenance & Repair Worker

Interested applicants may send their resume to kauilapro@gmail.com or pick up an application form at our office at Suite 107 Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe between 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

ISLANDER MINI MART 1

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sales & Marketing Associate
Rate: $7.25 per hour only
Schedule: Flexible time

Please send your resume at PO Box 502356 Saipan, MP 96950
Or Email it at mtci.jobs@gmail.com

R.E.A.L. INTERNATIONAL CORP.
dba R.E.A.L. Manpower Services
is looking for:

- (15) Building Maintenance Repairer
- (15) Commercial Cleaner
- (2) Tailor
- (5) Seamstress
- (3) Security Guard

Interested applicants may e-mail remypamintuan@gmail.com for more information.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

UNIVERSAL DEVELOPERS INC.
Is looking for

- (6) Building Maintenance Repairer
- (2) Seamstress

$7.05/hr - $7.25/hr

Interested applicants may e-mail remypamintuan@gmail.com for more information.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Ilmwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-08

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE (Pick-up Truck) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office"

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for a pick-up truck for the Judicial Administrative Office.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Ilmwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Ilmwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-09

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE (Utility Vehicle) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office"

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for a utility vehicle for the Judicial Administrative Office.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Ilmwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS MP 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF SAIPAN, Plaintiff : -v- LUIS A. SASAMOTO Defendant : CIVIL ACTION NO. 01-0044

FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Judgement issued by the Court in this matter on March 28, 2017, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on terms and condition set for the hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant Luis A. Sasamoto in and to the following property: Lot no. 060 T 01, situated in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 10,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 060 T 00 dated October 12, 1990, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 91-083, dated January 9, 1991, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 28, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions Of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated, this 30th day of August, 2018:

MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Yinhua Clark Petitioner : -vs- Song Feng Lin Respondent : FCD-PA CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0316 **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 1474 Box 10002 Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 31st day of August, 2018.

/s/ Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857
Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: **September 6, 2018** Closing Date: **September 27, 2018**

The Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission") needs immediate recruitment for the following positions:

POSITION	DIVISION	SALARY RANGE	ANNOUNCEMENT NO.
SENIOR ENFORCEMENT AGENT	Enforcement & Investigations	$30,000 - $35,000	CCC-2018-D
ACCOUNTANT	Executive	$30,000 - $35,000	CCC–2018-E

- **Salary:** Actual salary level will depend on the applicant's education, experience, and other related qualifications.
- **Location:** Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI").
- **Benefits:** Basic CNMI government employment fringe benefits.
- **Exempted Position:** This position is exempted from the CNMI Civil Service System per P.L. 18-56 & P.L.19-24.

Requirements:

A. Completed CNMI Government **Application for Employment** (OPM-03) – Original.
B. Resume with accompanying educational and professional credentials & documentations.
C. Police Clearance (within the last 3 months).
D. Copy of your Driver's License or other form of **Valid Identification with photo.**

Education and training claimed under items 24 (A) through (H) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by an official school transcript, diploma, or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

The Commonwealth Casino Commission is an equal employment opportunity employer. The CCC's EEO policy is to ensure that all employment decisions are made on a non-discriminatory basis, and without regard to sex, race, color, age, national origin, religion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation or belief, or any other status protected by applicable national, federal, state or local law. Please be informed that prior to a job offer, you are required to undergo a pre-employment drug test pursuant to the Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Policy, Part V.C. of the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations. The Casino Commission may also require additional criminal background checks and investigations if deemed necessary.

Application Forms can be picked up at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). For information on the **POSITION DESCRIPTION** and other requirements, please contact the HR Officer, Ms. Juanette Sablan at 233-1857/58 or at info@cnmicasinocommission.com. Interested persons should submit their completed Employment Application Forms along with supporting documents to the **Commonwealth Casino Commission's Office at Springs Plaza (Unit #13 & #14), Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950.**

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!
For opportunities contact us at 235-6397

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CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

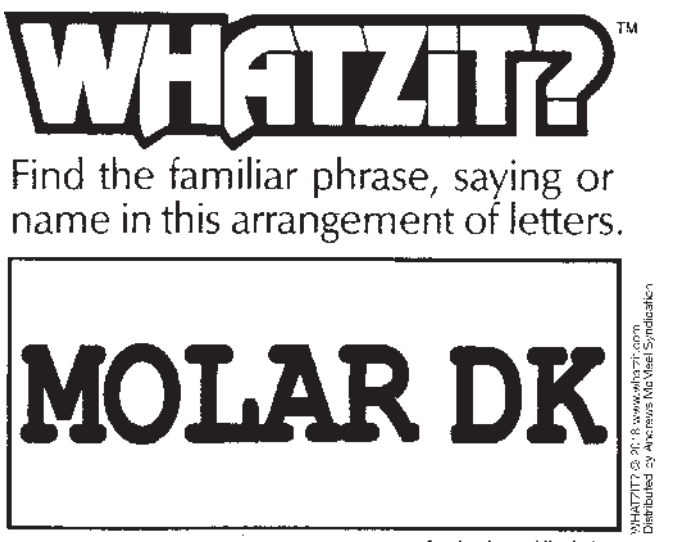
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.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www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Red Sox beat Braves in matchup of division leaders

ATLANTA (AP)—Steve Pearce had three hits and three RBIs, Rick Porcello allowed two hits in five innings and the Boston Red Sox beat the Atlanta Braves 5-1 on Tuesday night for their second straight win in a matchup of division leaders.

Porcello (16-7) gave up one run and struck out five, improving to 10-3 on the road this year. He had been 0-2 in his previous three starts overall since an Aug. 14 win at Philadelphia.

Atlanta pitchers walked nine, including five by starter Sean Newcomb (11-8), who matched his season high. He allowed three runs and four hits in 4 1/3 innings.

The Braves' lead over second-place Philadelphia in the NL East was cut to three games.

Kurt Suzuki homered for the Braves.

AP

Boston Red Sox's Craig Kimbrel looks for the sign before delivering a pitch in the ninth inning of baseball game against the Atlanta Braves, Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018, in Atlanta.

Brewers 11, Cubs 1

In Milwaukee, Lorenzo Cain reached base five times, Wade Miley pitched six stingy innings and Milwaukee romped past Chicago to climb within three games of the NL Central leaders.

Miley (3-2) allowed one run and three hits, struck out five and walked none as Milwaukee won for the fifth time in its last six meetings with its division rival. The second-place Brewers maintained a 1½-game lead over St. Louis for the top NL wild card.

Mike Montgomery (4-5) struggled with his control for four innings, and the Brewers had little trouble with a succession of Cubs relievers.

Cardinals 11, Nationals 8

In Washington, Yadier Molina hit a grand slam, Marcell Ozuna homered twice and St. Louis defeated Washington.

Molina provided a cushion for the Cardinals with his sixth career slam, which made it 11-5 in the ninth inning. St. Louis hit five homers overall in stopping a three-game skid.

Right fielder Yairo Munoz robbed Ryan Zimmerman of a three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth, reaching over the fence and pulling the ball back into the field of play for a two-run double.

Rockies 6, Giants 2

In Denver, Ryan McMahon had a pinch-hit home run and Carlos Gonzalez tripled with the bases loaded during a five-run seventh inning that carried Colorado past San Francisco.

David Dahl also homered and Charlie Blackmon had three hits for the Rockies, who lead the NL West in September or October for the first time since 1995. It was the fourth straight loss for the Giants, who also have dropped six in a row to Colorado.

Phillies 9, Marlins 4

In Miami, Carlos Santana homered to start a four-run first inning and Philadelphia snapped a three-game losing streak by beating Miami.

Jake Arrieta (10-9) struck out a season-high 11 and earned his first win since July 31. He allowed four runs in 7 1/3 innings and improved to 5-1 in eight career starts against the Marlins.

The Phillies moved within three games of first-place Atlanta in the NL East. They have a chance to win a series for the first time in a month Wednesday.

Pirates 7, Reds 3

In Pittsburgh, Starling Marte hit a two-run homer, Gregory Polanco had a two-run double and the Pirates topped Cincinnati.

Joe Musgrove (6-8) took a shutout into the seventh inning for the Pirates, who improved to 12-4 against the Reds this season.

Scooter Gennett homered twice for Cincinnati.

Astros 5, Twins 2

In Houston, Alex Bregman hit three doubles and Yuli Gurriel homered for the second game in a row, leading Justin Verlander and Houston to its fourth straight win.

Verlander (14-9) yielded one run and three hits while fanning eight over seven innings. Roberto Osuna got his 13th save.

Gurriel's homer capped a four-run first off Trevor May (3-1).

Tigers 8, White Sox 3

In Chicago, a fan was hit in the face by a foul ball and bled profusely before walking to the first aid station, causing a brief delay during Detroit's win.

The middle-aged male fan was sitting in the first row on the first base side of Guaranteed Rate Field—well beyond where the netting extends to end of the dugout —when he was struck by Jeimer Candelario's foul leading off the Tigers ninth. The game was held up for a couple minutes while he was treated, and the man eventually walked away under his own power, escorted by stadium personnel.

Indians 9, Royals 3

In Cleveland, Mike Clevinger struck out 10, Francisco Lindor hit another leadoff homer and Cleveland ended a three-game losing streak.

Clevinger (11-7) allowed just three hits in six innings and remained unbeaten in his last seven starts.

Kansas City had its season-high winning streak stopped at six, and lost starting pitcher Danny Duffy and rookie right fielder Brett Phillips to injuries.

Rangers 4, Angels 2

In Arlington, Adrian Beltre and Elvis Andrus each hit solo home runs in the fourth inning to lead Texas.

Andrus hit the first pitch of the fourth against Andrew Heaney (8-9) to tie it at 1. Two batters later, Beltre went deep for the ninth time this season and 471st time in his career.

Shohei Ohtani hit his 16th homer for Los Angeles, a leadoff shot in the sixth that chased Texas starter Mike Minor (11-7). It was Ohtani's first major league homer off a left-handed pitcher.

Rays 4, Blue Jays 0

In Toronto, Ryne Stanek became the first rookie pitcher in 75 years to start consecutive games and combined with six relievers on a three-hitter as Tampa Bay won its fourth in a row.

A night after throwing one inning and 16 pitches, Stanek worked one inning. He became first rookie to start back-to-back games since the St. Louis Cardinals' Red Munger got one out in a loss to Philadelphia on July 28, 1943, then pitched a complete-game victory over the Phillies the following day, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Diamondbacks 6, Padres 0

In Phoenix, Robbie Ray struck out 10 and pitched two-hit ball for 6 1/3 innings as Arizona blanked San Diego to end a four-game losing streak.

The Diamondbacks' skid had knocked them out of first place in the NL West.

Ray (5-2) got his first win at Chase Field since March 30, his first game of 2018 — he'd been 0-1 in his previous six starts at home. He won back-to-back starts for the first time since last September.

US to play Mexico, Panama, and Trinidad in women's qualifying

MIAMI (AP)—The United States will play Mexico, Panama and Trinidad and Tobago in the group stage of the CONCACAF Women's Championship, which serves as qualifying for next year's World Cup in France.

The top-ranked U.S., defending its 2015 World Cup title, opens Oct. 4 against Mexico, plays Panama three days later, then closes Group A play on Oct. 10. The matches will be at Cary, North Carolina.

Canada, the second-highest-ranked team, is in Group B in Edinburg, Texas, along with Costa Rica, Cuba and Jamaica.

The semifinals are Oct. 14 in Frisco, Texas, where the third-place game and championship are three days later.

The semifinal winners and third-place winner qualify for the 24-nation field at the World Cup, to be played from June 7 to July 7. The third-place loser advances to a home-and-home playoff against Argentina for another berth.

Meanwhile, Scotland qualified for the Women's World Cup for the first time with a 2-1 victory over Albania on Tuesday. Jane Ross scored the second goal that sealed top spot for Scotland in European qualifying Group 2 above Switzerland.

Germany, Norway and Sweden also qualified on Tuesday for the finals next year.

Fifteen of the 24 slots have been filled for the June 7-July 7 tournament in France.

France was also the host when Scotland's men last qualified for a major tournament, going out in the group stage of the 1998 World Cup.

Ronaldo, Salah, and Modric make FIFA shortlist, Messi doesn't

LONDON (AP)—Lionel Messi failed to make the world player of the year shortlist Monday for the first time since 2006, with Luka Modric and Mohamed Salah making their first appearance in the final three alongside Cristiano Ronaldo.

Messi and Ronaldo have been the only winners of world soccer's main individual award from FIFA since 2008.

Modric made the FIFA Best shortlist after helping Real Madrid to a third straight Champions League title in May and then leading Croatia to the World Cup final.

Ronaldo left Madrid after the Champions League final win over Liverpool to join Juventus. Salah was injured in the final but was recognized for his Premier League record 32 goals for Liverpool.

The women's player shortlist is headed by five-time winner Marta of Brazil. The Orlando Pride player is up against Lyon teammates Ada Hegerberg of Norway and Dzsenifer Marozsan of Germany.

Didier Deschamps, who led France to the World Cup title, was nominated alongside the coach he outwitted in the final: Zlatko Dalic of Croatia. Zinedine Zidane, who quit Real Madrid after a third straight Champions League title, completes the shortlist.

The three coaches in contention for the women's game award are: Asako Takakura, who led Japan to the Asian Games title last week, Reynald Pedros of France and Sarina Wiegman of the Netherlands.

Woods returns to Ryder Cup as a wild card

AP
Tiger Woods, right, speaks during a news conference with Phil Mickelson, left, and others, as they were announced as captain's picks to the 2018 U.S. Ryder Cup Team, Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018, in West Conshohocken, Pa.

WEST CONSHOHOCKEN, Pa. (AP)—Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson, golf's most prominent players for more than two decades, never realized the Ryder Cup would mean so much.

For Woods, it's the culmination of a comeback that began in January after a fourth surgery on his lower back. For Mickelson, more than setting a record by playing his 12th Ryder Cup, the 48-year-old gets what he believes will be his last chance to capture that gold trophy away from home.

U.S. captain Jim Furyk added them to his team Monday evening as wild-card selections, along with Bryson DeChambeau.

Woods agreed to be a vice captain in late February, and he set a goal to be in Paris on Sept. 28-30 as a player.

"It's incredible, it really is, to look back at the start of the year and now to have accomplished a goal like that," Woods said. "To be a part of this team, and now to be a player is just ... beyond special."

Mickelson had qualified for every team since 1995, a streak that ended this year when he finished No. 10 in the standings. His 12th appearance breaks the Ryder Cup record held by Nick Faldo.

Mickelson has only been on three winning teams—at Brookline in 1999, Valhalla in 2008 and two years ago at Hazeltine. His last time overseas was at Gleneagles, where he infamously closed out a losing press conference by questioning captain Tom Watson and the direction the PGA of America was taking the U.S. team.

That led to sweeping changes in the U.S. structure, mainly by giving players a stronger voice.

"This is mostly likely my last chance to go over to Europe and to be a part of a winning U.S. team in Europe. We haven't done that in 25 years," Mickelson said. "I set out this year on really a strong commitment and journey to get on the team. I got off to a great start this year. It's been a really good year, and although I fell just shy of making it on points, it feels great to be a part of this team and serve this team in any way I can."

Furyk still has one more captain's pick he will announce on Monday after the BMW Championship, and it might not be as easy as this one.

"Not that it was an easy decision," Furyk said with a smile. "But it could have been a lot more difficult."

Woods and Mickelson were logical choices. Woods briefly had the lead Sunday in the British Open until he tied for sixth, and he shot a career-best final round of 64 to finish second in the PGA Championship. Mickelson won another World Golf Championship in March, though he hasn't seriously contended since then.

DeChambeau narrowly missed out on one of the eight automatic spots by missing the cut at the PGA Championship, and the 24-year-old Californian knew he had to show Furyk some form in the three weeks before the picks were announced.

He won the first FedEx Cup playoff event by four shots. He won the next FedEx Cup playoff event by two shots.

"I wanted to be a part of this experience so badly that I worked twice as hard," DeChambeau said. "And it showed, and it paid off."

Tony Finau is believed to be the leading candidate for 12th and final spot. Furyk invited him as part of a small group that played Le Golf National on the weekend before the British Open. Finau tied a PGA Championship record with 10 birdies in the second round while playing with Furyk.

During the FedEx Cup playoffs, he was runner-up at one event and tied for fourth at the other.

European captain Thomas Bjorn announces his wild-card selections on Wednesday, with Henrik Stenson, Ian Poulter and Paul Casey among the likely picks. Still to be determined was whether former Masters champion Sergio Garcia, who failed to qualify for the FedEx Cup playoffs, gets a nod.

The eight Americans who qualified on their own were Brooks Koepka, Dustin Johnson, Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas, Rickie Fowler, Bubba Watson, Webb Simpson and Patrick Reed. Throw in Woods and Mickelson, and that gives the U.S. team a lineup that has combined for 31 majors.

That doesn't mean as much in foursomes and fourballs, on a European course before the singing and chanting of Europeans fans.

Stephens, Isner out; Serena, Nadal advance

NEW YORK (AP)—First, there were four break points squandered, along with an early chance for the lead.

Next, three more wasted.

Pretty soon, Sloane Stephens' run at a U.S. Open repeat was lost too.

The defending champion was eliminated Tuesday, beaten by Anastasija Sevastova 6-2, 6-3 in the quarterfinals.

"I didn't play the big points well, and you don't win matches when you don't take your opportunities," Stephens said.

Stephens beat Sevastova in the same round last year en route to her first Grand Slam title, but she missed numerous chances to grab an early lead in the rematch and could never get back into the match.

Sevastova, the No. 19 seed from Latvia, will play either Serena Williams in her first Grand Slam semifinal. Williams shook off a slow start to grab eight consecutive games and beat 2016 runner-up Karolina Pliskova 6-4, 6-3 for a spot in the U.S. Open semifinals.

Williams delivered 13 aces, part of a 35-12 edge in winners.

But she trailed by a break in the opening set, and then was a point from being behind 4-1, before turning things around.

Williams reached her 36th Grand Slam semifinal and her 12th at Flushing Meadows, where she is a six-time champion.

Pliskova is the last woman to beat Williams at the U.S. Open, eliminating her in the semifinals two years ago. Williams missed the U.S. Open a year ago because she gave birth to her daughter during the tournament.

Williams will face Sevastova, who once retired in May 2013 with her body battered by muscular and back-related injuries. She returned nearly two years later and finally broke through on her third straight appearance in the U.S. Open quarterfinals.

"It was an amazing journey, this three, four years," she said.

Three-quarters [illegible] Arthur Ashe Stadium was in the sun on another day of more than 90-degree temperatures (32.2 degrees Celsius) in New York, and Stephens seemed to lack some of her usual sideline-to-sideline court coverage in the heat.

Stephens said she had been battling a cold, but her biggest problem Tuesday might have been her serve. The No. 3 seed was broken five times in the 84-minute match.

"Mentally, physically, I just wasn't connecting," Stephens said. "It just was a really tough day. The heat doesn't make it any more fun."

Stephens, one of the best defenders in the game, squandered all seven break-point chances in the first set, missing out a chance for early [illegible]ntum during a [illegible]ngthy third game of the match. She couldn't convert four chances to break in that game that lasted 18 points, and Sevastova then quickly broke her for a 3-1 lead.

Stephens then couldn't convert three more chances in the next game, and never got another in the first set.

Her frustration became apparent, whether she was gesturing to her coach, staring in annoyance at deep balls that bounced off the baseline, or just screaming out in general.

"I'm trying!" she responded to a plea from the crowd to pick it up in the second set.

She did eventually get close, breaking Sevastova at love to cut it to 4-3 in the second set. But Sevastova broke right back during another lengthy game, this one lasting 14 points, and soon it was over—but not before Stephens made a pretty good run at becoming the first repeat champion since Williams won three in a row from 2012-14.

"So the fact that I made it to the quarterfinals and played some really good matches and I just competed as hard as I could, I mean, a lot to be proud of," Stephens said.

Meanwhile, Juan Martin del Potro got back to the semifinals for the second straight year, with the 2009 champion beating John Isner 6-7 (5), 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-2. Isner was trying to become the first American male semifinalist at the U.S. Open since Andy Roddick in 2006. Del Potro will face top-ranked Rafael Nadal in the semifinals.

Nadal shockingly was shut out in the first set of his U.S. Open quarterfinal before coming back to beat No. 9 seed Dominic Thiem 0-6, 6-4, 7-5, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (5) in 4 hours, 49 minutes.

It was only the fourth time in 282 career Grand Slam matches that Nadal lost a set by a 6-0 score. It's the first time he won the match after that kind of start.

This one was never easy: Nadal trailed by a break in the third set before taking it. He came within two points of victory late in the fourth set before being pushed to a fifth, where he was two points from a loss.

But Nadal held on and is into the semifinals at a third consecutive major tournament as he bids for a fourth U.S. Open title and 18th Grand Slam trophy overall.

Kaepernick's Nike deal prompts flurry of debate

NEW YORK (AP)—An endorsement deal between Nike and Colin Kaepernick prompted a flood of debate Tuesday as sports fans reacted to the apparel giant backing an athlete known mainly for starting a wave of protests among NFL players of police brutality, racial inequality and other social issues.

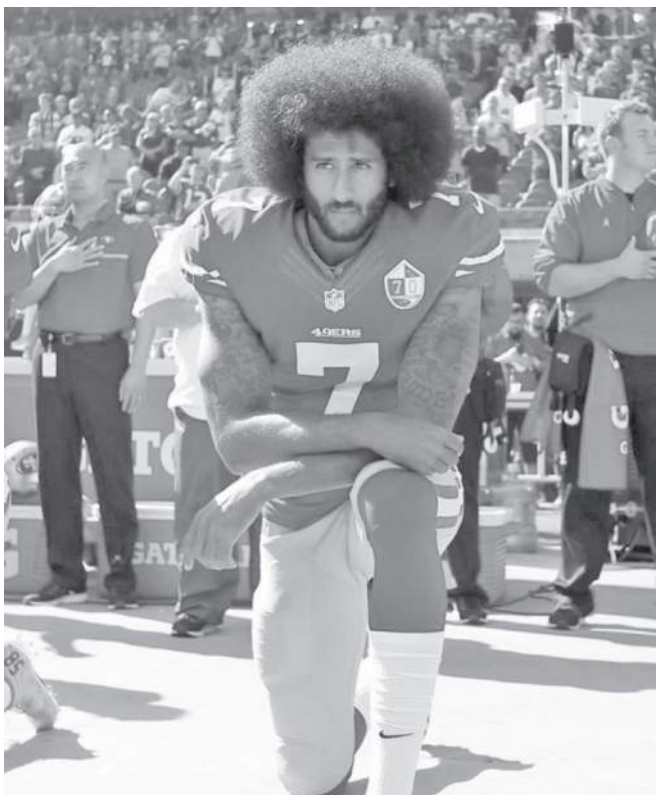
The deal unveiled by Nike and the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback was a trending topic on Twitter and other social networks, with some fans urging a boycott of the company's clothes and sneakers — even burning and cutting out the signature swoosh logos on their gear.

Others pushed back, saying the backlash against Nike showed the polarizing debate has morphed well beyond whether NFL players should be allowed to demonstrate for social causes while the national anthem plays in stadiums before games.

The league itself weighed in Tuesday afternoon with an executive saying the social issues Kaepernick has raised are valid.

"We embrace the role and responsibility of everyone involved with this game to promote meaningful, positive change in our communities," said Jocelyn Moore, the NFL's executive vice president of communications and public affairs. "The social justice issues that Colin and other professional athletes have raised deserve our attention and action."

Moore's statement was paired with a detailed breakdown of things players and league executives have done together to learn about and address social issues, including community meetings, lobbying and financially supporting local programs.



AP

In this Sept. 25, 2016, file photo, San Francisco 49ers' Colin Kaepernick kneels during the national anthem before an NFL football game against the Seattle Seahawks in Seattle.

On Twitter, country music star John Rich posted a picture of one of his crew members holding the tops of a cut pair of Nike socks, with the caption: "Get ready @Nike multiply that by the millions." The tweet garnered about 10,000 retweets and 30,000 likes, plus thousands of critical comments.

Rich, part of the duo Big & Rich and a former contestant of President Donald Trump's reality show "The Celebrity Apprentice," said he supported the right to protest but Nike lost his support when it endorsed Kaepernick.

Mixed martial arts fighter Elias Theodorou, a UFC middleweight, tweeted a widely shared picture of the Nike logo with a meme that read: "Instead of throwing away your Nike gear give to one of the millions of homeless veterans you pretend to care about."

Philadelphia Eagles safety Malcolm Jenkins said: "I hope other corporations follow (Nike's) example."

San Francisco 49ers cornerback Richard Sherman, tweeted: "Proud to be an @usnikefootball athlete. Stand for something or fall for anything. Few moments in history has that been more true!"

Trump, a frequent critic of protesting NFL players, said Tuesday in an interview with the Daily Caller that he thinks it's a "terrible message" for Nike to use Kaepernick in ads, but that it's their decision whether to use the quarterback.

"I think it's a terrible message that they're sending and the purpose of them doing it, maybe there's a reason for them doing it," Trump said, adding it's "a message that shouldn't be sent."

Trump said it's ultimately a business decision for Nike.

CNMI

From Page 28

Gillian Villagomez, Janelle Chojnacki, Jerlyn Castillo, and Therize Millare also made several attempts. The crew had a lot of short shots and some players lost their footing and eventually the ball, no thanks to the soaked pitch. The rain continued even at the extra four minute of the match, leaving the CNMI and Macau without a win in the competition with one more game left in the qualifier. The Commonwealth will play Guam tomorrow at 1pm (3pm Saipan time), while Macau will take on Mongolia at 5pm. Mongolia and Guam collided in the second game last night and results of the match will be a crucial factor in the deciding the winner of the completion.

Meanwhile, the Blue Ayuyus also played under a punishing weather condition, as a hailstorm came midway in the second half. Big chunks of ice covered the pitch, forcing organizers to halt the match for 10 minutes with Mongolia pulling away, 5-0. The host kept going at the resumption of the one-sided game to hand the CNMI its second loss.

Despite another defeat, Blue Ayuyus coach Michiteru Mita was happy with the team's defense in the second half.

"It was a tough game, Mongolia players were both quick and strong. After we conceded the first goal my boys were a bit confused. We prepared well, but Mongolia was even better than we expected. In the second half, we have improved our defending, we were better organized and our goalkeeper (Chris Aninzo) did great. Without him, we could have lost by more goals," Mita was quoted as saying in the East Asian Football Federation website.

As for Mongolia coach Hans Michael Weis, he said they had a great first half and slowed down a bit in the second because they want to reserve the players' energy.

"We decided to make changes because we wanted them to rest and be fit for the match on Thursday (today). The Guam team is a good team, we can't afford to lose against them. We want to win that game to make our fans happy. I don't think our players will lose focus. We have gone through one and a half year of training and we have experienced also some severe losses. Now it is getting better, the players are more confident and while they are not yet at the top where I want them to be, you can see that they know what they are doing," Weis said at the postgame press conference.

"We need to bring it to the next level in order to compete with Hong Kong, North Korea, and Chinese Taipei in the future," he added.

MONGOLIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

The CNMI Women's National Team's starters pose for a group photo before their game against Mongolia in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator last Monday.

CUKI

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ingfong, Vince "The Clinch" Masga, and Ken "Kamakazi" Tanzawa.

Shane and Masga will be competing in the purple belt 146 lbs division; Tanzawa is also in the purple belt 176 lbs; Sangalang in the blue belt 146 lbs; Taitingfong in the blue belt 141 lbs; Agda in the white belt 200 lbs; and Cuki in the brown belt Masters 3 division. Three of the original members of the Trench Tech delegation—Jeff Garcia, professor Clinton Dela Cruz, and Mark "The Dark" Nuique—missed the trip due to conflict of schedule with their work.

"Both Mark and Jeff got new jobs and professor Clinton is very busy at work as well," the Trench Tech founder said.

Cuki and company will be gunning for medals in their respective divisions and believed they have their work cut out for them, as the three-day tournament has a very strong field, as always.

"The ultimate goal is to garner medals in our respective weight and belt divisions. However, we do know that some of the best BJJ players in the world will be competing in this event. Our main focus is to take it one match at a time and go for the wins to make it to the semifinals then of course the medal matches," Cuki said.

"We have a good chance to do that. All in all, we will proudly represent our island nation and give it our best. The experience will definitely be the best part of the whole trip! We will either 'win or learn' and it will only make us better for the next tournaments," he added.

The Trench Tech standouts' participation in the tournament dubbed as "Asian Open" and ranked among the best in the world was made possible by the support of the following individuals and companies: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan Crew Boats, Inc., FISG, Mark Blackburn, Saipan Apparel, Kautz Glass, Clinton Dela Cruz, Crank Industries, Bridge Capital, LLC, Hertz Rent A Car, and Mariana P. Alvarez.

UFC

From Page 28

(unanimous decision) in the UFC on FOX 27 in January this year in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Neal, on the other hand, is on a roll, prevailing in his last three fights for a 9-2 record. The Texas native is known as a standup fighter, as proven by five (via punches) of his six KO wins. Neal holds a blue belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, two notches below Camacho's brown belt, giving the Marianas warriors the edge in ground fighting. However, oddsmaker picked Neal as the slight favorite in this weekend's match.

Meanwhile, with just a few days left before the bout, Camacho said they are going easy on training.

"The focus is making sure we are sharp and focused on the game plan for the fight. Another priority is just the weight cut to make the weight. We are lightening up training. No hard sparring or anything, just lots of drills and cardio," said the Trench Tech bet, who is fighting in the welterweight class (170 lbs).

Camacho is dedicating the bout to all his supporters and thanked them for rallying behind him.

"I want to thank you, the people of the Marianas, my family, and my sponsors Harley Davidson of Guam and 76 Circle K Guam for the continued support. Without them, I would not be able to represent the Marianas in the UFC. Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Olomway."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	96	44	.686	—
New York	87	52	.626	8½
Tampa Bay	75	63	.543	20
Toronto	62	76	.449	33
Baltimore	41	98	.295	54½

Central Division

Cleveland	78	60	.565	—
Minnesota	63	75	.457	15
Chicago	56	83	.403	22½
Detroit	56	83	.403	22½
Kansas City	46	92	.333	32

West Division

Houston	86	53	.619	—
Oakland	83	57	.593	3½
Seattle	77	62	.554	9
Los Angeles	67	72	.482	19
Texas	61	78	.439	25

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	76	62	.551	—
Philadelphia	73	65	.529	3
Washington	69	70	.496	7½
New York	62	76	.449	14
Miami	55	84	.396	21½

Central Division

Chicago	81	57	.587	—
Milwaukee	79	61	.564	3
St. Louis	77	62	.554	4½
Pittsburgh	68	71	.489	13½
Cincinnati	59	80	.424	22½

West Division

Colorado	76	62	.551	—
Los Angeles	76	63	.547	½
Arizona	75	64	.540	1½
San Francisco	68	72	.486	9
San Diego	55	86	.390	22½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CNMI vs Mongolia in EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

CNMI Women's National Team captain Janelle Chojnacki, fifth left, poses for a photo with Mongolia's Tsasan-Okhin Orgodol, second left, and the game officials before the start of their match in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 last Monday at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator, Mongolia.

CNMI and Mongolia players react after a play.

The CNMI's Britany Wally, right, reaches in to steal the ball from Mongolia's Enkhmargad Enkhbaatar.

The CNMI's Jerlyn Castillo, left, has her eyes on the ball, while Mongolia's Tsolmon Ganchimeg closes in.

Volunteers hold the CNMI flag while the Commonwealth anthem is being played.

CNMI players celebrate after scoring against Mongolia in the first half.

CNMI players pay their respect to the Commonwealth during the singing of the islands' anthem.

CNMI players huddle before the start of their match versus Mongolia.

Red Sox beat Braves in matchup of division leaders

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Woods returns to Ryder Cup as a wild card

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CNMI holds Macau to a draw

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI settled for a scoreless draw against Macau in the women's division, while Mongolia dominated the Blue Ayuyus, 9-0, in the men's match in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1.

The CNMI-Macau game yesterday was played at the soggy Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator, as it rained before and at the entire duration of the match, making it extra difficult for both teams to find their targets.

The CNMI's Dai Podziewski, left, steps in on defense in an attempt to deflect a shot from Mongolia's Baljinnyam Batbold, while the former's teammate Hark Galarion moves in closer to the play during the second half of their game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator last Tuesday.

MONGOLIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

The weather was so tough that the Commonwealth's female players had to wear gloves and warmers in the game. Despite the unforgiving weather condition, the Luen Khen Koo-coached team was persistent on offense as it had majority of possessions. In the second half alone, the CNMI bets attempted nearly 20 shots, making Macau goalkeeper Ka Ho so busy. On several occasions, Ho had to take a breather after each save and was even attended by their team physiotherapist a couple of times as she grimaced in pain and exhaustion.

Gianna Griffin, who scored the CNMI's first goal in the tournament, led the squad's attack, while Guine Borja,

See CNMI on Page 26

Pressure is on for 'Crank' in UFC 228

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pressure heats up as Frank "The Crank" Camacho enters the fight week of his highly-anticipated bout against Geoff "Handz of Steel" Neal in UFC 228: Woodley vs Till.

"We are officially in UFC 228 fight week. Weight is good and I am feeling great! I am being very proactive with acclimating to the time zone and getting over the jet lag," said the Marianas pride, who arrived in Dallas, Texas last Sunday (Monday on Saipan).

Camacho will face Neal on Sept. 8 (Sept. 9 Saipan time) at the American Airlines Center with the former pressed to win, as the bout is the last in his four-fight deal with the Ultimate Fighting Championship.

"There is always pressure going into every fight. I would be lying if I said there is no pressure. But using that and channeling it to be positive is what counts—to go out there and perform to the best of my ability," said Camacho, who is hoping to improve his 21-6-0 win-loss-draw record and get his second UFC win.

The 29-year-old debuted in UFC last year and earned a Fight of the Night tag in his loss to China's Lingliang Li. Camacho went on to get Fight of the Night honors in his next two appearances in UFC stage and post a 1-1 mark. He won over Damien Brown (split decision) in UFC Fight Night 121 in November 2017 in Australia and then bowed to Drew Dober

See UFC on Page 26

UFC PHOTO

The tale of the tape in the welterweight bout between Frank "The Crank" Camacho and Geoff "Handz of Steel" Neal in UFC 228: Woodley vs Till. Camacho will meet Neal this weekend in Dallas, Texas.

Cuki, 6 others off to Japan BJJ tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

It will be a busy weekend for the islands' warriors, as besides Frank "The Crank" Camacho and Roman "Sonic Boom" Alvarez, a group of Trench Tech fighters will also be competing in an off-island tournament.

Cuki Alvarez and six others left for Japan yesterday to participate in the 2018 Asian IBJJF Jiu-Jitsu Championship that will be held from Sept. 7 to 9 at the Tokyo Budo-Kan in Tokyo. Camacho is in Dallas, Texas to fight Geoff "Handz of Steel" Neal in UFC 228 *(see related story)*, while Roman is in China to challenge Daichi Takenaka in One Championship. Cuki is joined on the Japan trip by his son Shane, Kier "The Radical Kid" Agda, Paulo "The Sang" Sangalang, Giovanni Tait-

See CUKI on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The seven Trench Tech warriors pose for a photo before they leave for Japan last Tuesday to compete in the Asian Open in Tokyo.